FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT PRESIDES OVER MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING

NC181620 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar today chaired a meeting of the Plenary Military Council of Al-'Asifah Forces [military wing of Fatah]. The meeting was attended by Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and the General Command of Al-'Asifah Forces, and brother Abu al-Walid, chief at the Central Operations room of the Joint forces.

Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke at length about the latest Palestinian, Arab and international developments.

VOP: 'ARAFAT ADDRESSES BEIRUT RALLY ON PALESTINIAN WRITERS' DAY

NC191800 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Speech delivered by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at 19 April opening of the third session of the General Congress of Palestinian Writers and Journalists in the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Hall of the Arab University of Beirut--recorded]

[Excerpts] Brothers: You are comrades in the trench and comrades in arms, be they rifles or pens, prose or poetry, revolutionary flames or military orders. All these things in their entirety constitute this revolutionary deluge which follows its course and digs its deep furrow in this area, here in Lebanon. Here in Lebanon, this revolutionary deluge, together with our brothers in the National Movement and the Nationalist [quwmiyah] Front, forms this deep revolutionary trench in which the Lebanese fighters and their brother Palestinian fighters defend, not only the Palestinian revolution, the National Movement, the Patriotic Front and Lebanon and Palestine, but also the land of all Arabism--from the Gulf to the Ocean.

I am telling you, brother Muhsin, slaves do not fight. Therefore, the free Lebanese fighters together with their brothers, the free Palestinian fighters, are brilliant stars illuminating the way for the armies of our Arab nation to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem. [applause] Indeed, slaves do not fight. This fact explains our deep faith in our Palestinian revolution and in our joint command, which were baptized in the blood the martyrs and the heroes.

Yesterday, [Israeli Chief of Staff] General Eytan said that he will continue his operations against Lebanese territory. Carter did not utter the word no. However, when our fighters proceed to Misgav 'Am, Jerusalem, Beersheba, Haifa and Jaffa, Eytan immediately volunteers to talk. Eytan is connected with this Zionist slavery which dominates the White House. The White House also dominates Zionism. This is because Zionism is American imperialism and American imperialism is Zionism. I tell this pretentious Eytan and I tell his masters Carter and Begin and their agent As-Sadat: Here in Lebanon, there are those who have decided to remain steadfast until victory, until victory, until victory. [applause]

Let them use all their American weapons, funds, influence and diplomacy. This is because we are not fighting Israel. No, we are fighting America, the enemy of the peoples. We are fighting America. We are fighting this ugly American face. We welcome battles.

Nay, what is inevitable is indeed inevitable. If the 6th Fleet, the U.S. Marines and the rapid deployment force of which they are boasting are ready, we were ready before them. We tell them welcome. We are ready. In other words, the only ones we have not yet fought are the American Marines. We tell them welcome.

I am telling them on behalf of the joint command: You are welcome, you are welcome--and I will show them how they will be mauled in the quagmire here in the valleys of Lebanon, just as they were mauled there in the quagmire of the woods of Vietnam. We welcome them and we are lying in wait for them.

I say these words, brothers, at this time when the plot is taking shape. This is the plot concocted by Carter with agent As-Sadat and the plot of Carter with Begin. They think that our kinsmen in the occupied territory will go to their knees. Let them draw whatever drafts they desire--autonomy from 26 May to 26 August and to whatever year they want. I want them to know one thing; that is, our people in the occupied land are a heroic people. They are the time bomb which has exploded in the face of As-Sadat, in the face of Begin and in the face of Carter.

As far as this imperialist plot of the United States, Israel and As-Sadat is concerned, I tell them that nobody can impose either his decision or his plot against this steadfast, gigantic and great people in our occupied territory. This plot will fail, just as all the other plots have failed.

I am telling you that we in the Palestinian revolution do not only carry rifles in this trench. No, we are much greater than this. We are bridges of confidence extending throughout our Arab nation. We will continue to serve as bridges between Syria and Iraq. Let all those present here hear me: We will continue to be bridges of confidence between Syria and Iraq and we will remain bridges of confidence between Iraq and Iran. We will do this so that, as we said a year ago and at one time, our front extends from Beirut to Khorasan. Our front will extend yet again. Therefore, I say that this is the function of the Palestinian revolution; to constitute bridges of confidence to reunify our ranks so that we can confront this plot. This plot has gone very far in its bitterness and very deep in its malicious depth to the extent of trying to make us entertain not only regional and local suspicions, but also sectarian suspicions. No, we will not let this plot be peddled. This nation is a great one which wants to make headway.

Brothers, do we believe that the plot concocted by agent As-Sadat is just the Camp David agreement; that is, agreement number 1 and agreement number 2? No, brothers, the process is much bigger than this. It is a process of taming this area so that it will become a sphere of American influence and of the influence of the world imperialist monopolies led by the United States. I say that no one can impose his will on the area. It is possible for them to score scattered victories. However, I tell you: Victory is coming, victory is coming.

At a moment, any devastating power might be able to impose a change in the course of history. However, and in the final analysis, real strength lies in the just causes and in the peoples who are struggling for their just causes. We, in the Palestinian revolution are but a part. It is true that we constitute the Palestinian revolution. However, we are a Palestinian revolution in appearance only. However, this revolution has an Arab depth; it has an Arab heart. Even more, this is a world revolution; it belongs to the world and it is deep-rooted throughout the world. Therefore, I tell this ugly American face, namely, Carter: We are not alone. We have on our side all the free men of the world. We have all these free and honorable forces present in the nonaligned states. We have on our side these friends of the socialist camp and the socialist states headed by the great Soviet Union. Therefore, brothers, every day we score a new victory.

Brothers, I am sure that Egypt's night will not be a long one. The revolutionaries of 18 and 19 January are still in Egypt. The people of 'Abd an-Nasir are still in Egypt. The people of 'Urabi [Pasha--a former Egyptian nationalist leader] are still in Egypt. Brothers, we are facing the same plot. The khedive went to his knees, but 'Urabi resisted. As-Sadat went to his knees, but our Egyptian National Front has emerged. [applause] Therefore, I absolutely do not see how this plot can be peddled.

Brothers, what is happening is merely an atonement for the sins which our Arab nation has committed. Will the peoples wash their blemishes with water? No, they wash these blemishes with blood. Therefore, this blood which is being shed is this purity which will purify our Arab nation before its great birth. This shall be a revolution until victory! [applause]

AFP: 'ARAFAT MEETS WITH FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIAN

NC201140 Paris AFP in English 1124 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Beirut, April 20 (AFP)--Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat quipped last night that even among the Jewish community he could beat Israeli Premier Menahem Begin in elections in Israel.

Illustrating PLO popularity to French Member of Parliament Jean-Yves le Drian, Mr. 'Arafat explained that the Palestinians had a common cultural background with oriental Jews, noting that 65 percent of Israelis were oriental Jews.

Mr 'Arafat categorically denied to Mr. le Drian ever having told a Venezuelan magazine that "peace to the PLO means destroying Israel."

"I defy anyone to find the tape or the journalist that recorded such a statement," the PLO leader said, dismissing the much publicised quote.

Turning to the Camp David peace between Israel and Egypt, Mr. 'Arafat said the PLO would "welcome any European initiatives" attempting to solve peace follow-up problems, notably on Palestinian autonomy in Israeli-occupied land.

He added however that the PLO felt that, so far, "Europe has not played its part."

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS, DISCUSSES ISRAELI THREATS

JN201055 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Beirut, 20 April--The Fatah Central Committee held a meeting last night under PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. During the meeting, the exploding situation in southern Lebanon and the continued Zionist threats were discussed.

Without giving further details, WAFA said that a number of decisions and measures were adopted.

PLO OFFICIALS COMMENT ON TALKS WITH TUNISIAN OFFICIALS

LD181421 Tunis L'ACTION in French 8 Apr 80 p 13

[Unattributed report: "Abu Mazin and Abu al-Hul Leave Tunis"]

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Mazin left Tunis on Sunday after a visit lasting a few days during which he had talks with party and government officials, in particular with President Bourguiba.

Abu Mazin stated that he met with Tunisian officials' customary understanding and support for the Palestinian people's just struggle and he emphasized the remarkable steadfastness shown by President Bourguiba and Tunisia toward the Palestinian people's just struggle and he emphasized the remarkable steadfastness shown by President Bourguiba and Tunisia toward the Palestinian cause.

This, he added, illustrates the active solidarity which binds the Palestinian and Tunisian people and the Tunisian leaders' concern to support the Palestinian struggle until its final victory.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee member Abu al-Hul left Tunis on Saturday.

In a statement to a TAP agency representative, Abu al-Hul exmphasized that this talks with Tunisian officials at party and government level produced an identity of views on all the questions discussed.

Describing the Arab world's present state as "delicate," Abu al-Hul declared himself happy and honored at having met with President Bourguiba who, he explained, "gave us his valuable advice onall matters relating to our people's struggle both within and without the occupied territories."

FATAH OFFICIAL: UN SHOULD ADMINISTER OCCUPIED TERRITORY

NC192000 Paris AFP in English 1949 GMT 19 Apr 80

[By AFP Special Correspondent 'Ali Shubashi]

[Text] Strasbourg, April 19 (AFP)--A Palestinian leader described today for the first time what his people could accept as a Mideast solution and voiced a new Palestinian stand--that the United Nations should take charge of Israeli-occupied Arab territories until a referendum on autonomy can be held.

Khalid Hasan, a leader of the major Palestinian group Fatah, reaffirmed the Arab position of "evacuation of territories occupied (by Israel) in 1967", and added, in a new position, that the U.N. should take charge of these regions for six to 12 months preceding a "referendum of self-determination."

He spoke at a meeting here organized by the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Communication with participation of a delegation from the National Palestinian Council (Parliament).

Mr Hasan called the proposals "suggestions to Europeans which could be the basis for a European initiative to be eventually presented after the certain failure of current negotiations between America, Israel and Egypt on autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza." (According to the Camp David accord, autonomy negotiations must be concluded by May 26).

The official, also president of the group's Foreign Affairs Committee, added that a Mideast peace "cannot succeed without participation of the United States and the Soviet Union under the aegis of the United Nations."

The Fatah leader did not say whether all Palestinians, or only those in the West Bank and Gaza, should take part in the autonomy referendum, observers noted.

He spoke of eventual negotiations between Israel and a future Palestinian state and said that once such a state were set up "if the Palestinian people decide so", negotiations "between all the states concerned would take place...to solve the numerous problems."

PFLP-GENERAL COMMAND HOLDS RALLY IN DAMASCUS

JN190650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--The PFLP-General Command last night held a speech rally at the Al-Yarmuk Camp on the occasion of its 15th anniversary. The rally was attended by Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi, regional secretary of the Palestine branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and secretary general of the As-Sa'iqah organization; Ahmad Jibril, PFLP-General Command secretary general; 'Abd al-Ghani Qannut, member of the Central Command of the National Progressive Front; members of the PLO Executive Committee; the members of the PFLP-General Command Politburo and a number of the diplomatic corps members.

Addressing the rally, Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi expressed President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to the PFLP-General Command, stressing the need to strengthen Palestinian national unity. He praised the resolutions and outcome of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front's conference in Tripoli. He said that the front, led by Syria and th Palestinian resistance, constitutes the principal factor in the confrontation of the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat plots.

Comrade al-Qadi condemned the vicious onslaught to which Syria is exposed--an onslaught aimed at wrecking Syria's steadfastness and liquidating the Palestinian revolution. He said: Our enemies are the United States, Israel and the reactionaries. Comrade al-Qadi said that the European initiatives on the Middle East issue are an integral part of the Camp David plot.

Addressing the rally on behalf of the PLO, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman, condemned the plots that are being hatched against the Arab nation and its basic issue--Palestine. He praised Syria's steadfastness and its confrontation of the Camp David plot. He added that Syria is presently waging the most noble battle for the sake of Palestine and the entire Arab nation.

Abu Mayzar asserted that the Palestinian revolution's alliance with Syria is bound to wreck all plots.

PFLP-General Command Secretary General Ahmad Jibril addressed the rally, confirming that the blood of those who have fallen along the road of struggle will intensify the Arab people's efforts for the sake of liberation and return, regardless of the magnitude of the plots the U.S. imperialists are hatching and traitor As-Sadat is implementing.

Referring to the onslaught to which Syria is exposed, Jibril said that this onslaught is aimed at striking at Syria, the stronghold of Arab steadfastness, to peddle the Camp David accords.

Jibril praised the resolutions of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front's conference, asserting that they were positive and significant for destroying the Camp David schemes.

KUWAIT

CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES OFFICIAL VISIT

LD181344 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait--Czech Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek left Kuwait today at the end of a 2-day [as received] official visit, during which he conducted talks with Kuwaiti officials on the Middle East and on bilateral relations.

In a statement issued before his departure he described his visit as "extremely useful." He said the two countries agreed, during this visit, to consolidate their relations particularly in the economic and cultural fields.

A joint statement on the visit of the Czech minister will be issued later today.

Joint Statement Issued

LD181912 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] In the name of God, the most merciful, the most compassionate. A joint statement on the visit of CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek to the State of Kuwait has been issued:

At the invitation of His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, His Excellency CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek paid an official visit to the state of Kuwait 16-18 April 1980.

The guest was received during this visit by Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah. He was also received by Minister of Oil and acting Minister of Finance Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn. The official talks between Bohuslav Chnoupek and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah took place in an atmosphere of mutual friendship and understanding. During these talks the development of relations between the two friendly countries was reviewed. The discussion also turned to present international issues of mutual interest.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the increasing development of relations between the CSSR and the State of Kuwait. They stressed their desire to continue the development, and growth of bilateral relations in all spheres.

During their review of the international political situation the two sides stressed the need for all peace-loving countries to exert their efforts toward consolidating and strengthening international security and peace. In this connection the two sides stressed the importance of halting the arms race, the realization of comprehensive disarmament and a reduction in international tension. The two sides also expressed their conviction of the need to base international relations on respect for the territorial sovereignty and security, nonintervention in the internal affairs of states, nonuse of force or threats [word indistinct] and the resolution of problems through peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter.

During their discussion of the grave and delicate situation in the Middle East region the two sides expressed once again their conviction that just and lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved without Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the Palestinian people's regaining their legitimate rights, including their right to establish their own independent state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides stressed their conviction that the maintenance of security and stability in the Gulf region is the sole responsibility of the states of the region without any outside intervention. The two sides also stressed the importance of making the Indian Ocean a region of peace.

The two sides also welcomed all efforts exerted to strengthen security and cooperation in the continent of Europe.

The two sides declared their condemnation of the apartheid policy and all forms of racial discrimination and colonialism in South Africa. They also welcomed the victory of the people of Zimbabwe, which is considered significant step in the struggle to destroy racialism and colonialism in South Africa.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the good results produced by this visit. They stressed the need to continue meetings among officials of their two countries.

Bohuslav Chnoupek expressed his appreciation for the hospitality with which he and the accompanying delegation were received. He extended an invitation to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah to pay an official visit to Czechoslovakia, an invitation which was gladly accepted and whose date will be determined later.

UAE

OIL MINISTER RETURNS FROM FRG, MAKES STATEMENT

JN201100 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1025 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 April--UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has stated that FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt will visit the UAE in the near future.

In a statement to the Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY on his return from the FRG this morning, Dr al-'Utaybah said that he will deliver a letter in reply to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan from the FRG chancellor.

Referring to his talks with FRG officials, Al-'Utaybah said that they dealt with the proposed Gulf-European dialog. He added that the UAE stressed its readiness to exert all possible efforts to bring about such a dialog, which would have positive results for the peoples in the Arab Gulf and in Europe. Al-'Utaybah said that his talks also focused on the Middle East cause, noting that the FRG reiterated its support for the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination.

Dr al-'Utaybah added that his visit to the FRG was successful and fruitful, because it covered all aspects of cooperation between the UAE and the FRG. He also noted that bilateral visits by technical delegations will be exchanged for the formulation of scientific and practical bases that will promote bilateral economic, trade and oil relations. Al-'Utaybah said that the possibility of cooperation between the UAE and the lander of Hamburg in the sphere of ports management and operation, heavy and light industries and the expansion of trade exchange were also discussed.

PDRY

KUNA REPORTS ISMA'IL'S RESIGNATION AS YSP CHAIRMAN

LD210809 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Aden, 21 April--It was officially announced here today that 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, has suddenly resigned his post as head of state and as leader of the ruling leftist Yemeni Socialist Party.

Radio Aden said that Isma'il's resignation is due to "health reasons" and that his resignation was accepted by the party's Central Committee during a meeting held last night. The radio, however, did not disclose the nature of the illness affecting Isma'il, who has never been known to be suffering from any ailment.

The radio also said that the Central Committee has appointed Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad as its secretary general and has provisionally entrusted him with the post of chairman of the Presidium. The radio also reported that the Central Committee has decided to appoint Isma'il as chairman of the party "in appreciation" of his position.

The radio said that the Central Committee discussed Isma'il's resignation "for health reasons which prevent him from carrying out his duties as leader of the party and head of the state in the required manner." The radio also said that the committee "fully and extensively studied the request of Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il that his resignation be accepted. In the light of this and in appreciation of his state of health, the committee decided to accept his resignation. At the same time, in appreciation of the position held by Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the Central Committee decided to appoint him as chairman of the Yemeni Socialist Party."

This is the first time such a post has been announced. The radio said that the Central Committee chose 'Ali Nasir Muhammad as its secretary general and entrusted him with the duties of head of state until the convocation of the Supreme People's Council, in addition to his present post as prime minister. The radio said that the Central Committee will continue its meetings under Nasir Muhammad to discuss economic and party conditions and ideological and political actions.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad is known to be one of the closest friends of the outgoing Chairman Isma'il. They closely cooperated together following the execution of President Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali in June 1978, after he was accused of preparing an abortive rightist coup. Following the death of President Salim, the two men pursued a radical political line which intensified their cooperation with the socialist camp and the leftist Marxist regimes in other countries, including Ethiopia.

PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad visited Riyadh last month, and it was then announced that Chairman Isma'il would visit Saudi Arabia shortly. Aden also continued its unity talks with Northern Yemen following the border war between them in March 1979.

The last political activity performed by Isma'il prior to his resignation was his attendance of the summit conference of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in Tripoli last week. It was reported that the plane which carried him from Aden developed a technical fault before landing in the Libyan capital, causing it to be 2 hours late.

COMMENTARY ON ISRAELI 18 APR ATTACK ON SOUTH LEBANON

NC181420 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Apr 80

[News analysis by Dr Mahmud Mutawalli, professor of contemporary history in Al-Minya University, on the IDF attack on the Palestinian fedayeen base 18 April]

[Text] The Israeli authorities are continuing their oppressive actions in the occupied territories, particularly the establishment of settlements and the acquisition of land, which creates a wide wave of indignation among the citizens in these territories. The reaction of some of the fedayeen and the PLO was the attack on the Misgav 'Am settlement in upper Galilee. Five fedayeen attackers were killed and about 16 Israelis including 11 IDF men were wounded in the attack. During the last 2 months, Arab detainees in Israeli prisons numbered over 400. The charge levelled against them was their resistance to the occupation of Arab territories.

Israel now attempts to carry out a retaliatory operation against the PLO. The first and not the least, of these actions was the Israeli attack with tanks and various heavy weapons on southern Lebanon. IDF spokesman confirmed that the presence of armed Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon was to set up advance defensive positions. The Israeli spokesman said that the purpose of these positions was to foil any new attack by the Palestinian fedayeen. The situation on the Lebanese front has developed to a serious level between the Palestinians and the Israelis. Israel attacked Sidon port where it blew up two homes and killed and wounded ten persons. Israel also shelled As-Sarafand with artillery fire. The Israeli attack lasted about 2 1/2 hours. Although the Palestinian fedayeen resisted the attack, causing casualties among the Israelis, it appears that Israel intends anew to carry out some operations of attrition against the Palestinian resistance. Israeli attempts were not limited to attacking the fedayeen bases in Lebanon but they also aimed at supporting the secessionist Sa'd Haddad by providing him with tanks so as to obstruct the mission of the UN forces in southern Lebanon.

We ask: What does Israel want and what is its real goal? The current events in the Middle East--in spite of the concluded Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty--confirm that stability has not been achieved so far and that firstly and lastly, Israel and Begin's policy, which is still influenced by old Zionist ideas, are responsible for this. Israel must understand the realities of contemporary policy in the world. Israel must also realize that the Arab rights cannot be ignored and that Egypt will be the first to oppose it, should Israel persist in its policy of denying the rights of the Palestinian people or obstructing the process of a just peace for all the peoples in the area.

AL-AHRAM: EGYPT ASKS U.S. TO PLAY FULL PARTNER ROLE IN AUTONOMY

NC190733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 18 April-Egypt has officially asked the United States to participate as a full partner in the autonomy talks scheduled to be held in Herzliyya on 28 April and afterward in Alexandria. Egypt has also asked that the United States continue to shoulder its responsibility, even after 26 May, within the framwork of the standing committee, which will coordinate and resolve problems between the elected [autonomous] authority and Israel. Egypt has also asked that priority be given to discussing outstanding issues on which agreement has not been reached by 26 May.

In its Saturday edition, AL-AHRAM says that the parties are expected to negotiate an agreement that will define the responsibilities of the autonomous authority in the West Bank and Gaza and under which the Israeli forces will be withdrawn and redeployed in specific security locations. The agreement will also include arrangements to insure internal and external security and public order.

MENA REPORTS ON CONTACTS FOR RESUMPTION OF AUTONOMY TALKS

NC191609 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 19 April 80

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--MENA has learned that contacts are underway among Cairo, Washington and Israel for setting a date for the first round of intensive negotiations on Palestinian autonomy among the three parties--Egypt, Israel and United States, for reaching the goal before 26 May.

It is recalled that it was agreed to hold the first round of negotiations continuously for 15 days in Herzliyya. The second round is to be held at the MENA House in Al-Haram during the remaining period up to 26 May.

MENA has learned that Egypt insists on discussing the question of security during these negotiations. Egypt also adheres to its stand that all powers must be transferred to the elected Palestinian authority. The other subjects which have not been agreed upon will be referred to the permanent committee as stipulated in the Camp David agreement, which will seek to bring about reconciliation on disputed matters.

AS-SADAT ATTENDS FRIDAY PRAYERS IN NATIVE VILLAGE

NC181608 Cairo MENA in English 1415 GMT 18 April 80

[Text] Mit Abu Al-Kawn, Egypt, April 18 (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat performed Friday prayers today at the mosque of his native village.

MENA REPORTS AS-SADAT SPEECH PLANS

NC182246 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 18 April 80

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 April--President as-Sadat will announce the details of the state's new structure in two phases--the first phase on 1 May on the occasion of Labor Day, which for the first time will be celebrated in Al-'Arish, and the second phase on 14 May on the 10th anniversary of the corrective revolution.

AS-SADAT RECEIVES CHRISTIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

NC201506 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 April 80

[Text] Cairo, 20 April--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today received the Christian members of the People's Assembly.

Coptic Affairs Committee

NC202017 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 April 80

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today received the Christian members of the Peoples' Assembly.

The president asked the assembly speaker, Sufi Abu-Talib, to form a factfinding committee composed of four members of the Peoples' Assembly, two of them Muslims and the other two Copts. The committee will be headed by one of the Peoples' Assembly deputy speakers and will be entrusted with investigating any matter delegated to it and pertaining to our Coptic brothers. The outcome of the investigations will be submitted to the Peoples' Assembly.

FINANCE MINISTER READS AS-SADAT SPEECH TO CONFERENCE

NC191250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1158 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 19 April--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has stated that Egypt must accept the challenge in the peace era as it accepted it in the war era and that it must confront the peace challenges with new thinking and original courageous solutions to solve all the problems that have been accumulating because of the conditions through which the national economy passed in the past.

In a speech which he addressed today to the public sector management and peace challenges conference, which was delivered on his behalf by Finance Minister Dr 'Ali Lufti, who opened the conference, the president stressed that the next stage requires us to tackle many problems. Most important, we must strive to acquire advanced technology in order to increase production, create new employment opportunities, increase exports, find new stable markets for our products and improve the balance of payments.

President as-Sadat added: We must work to provide food security and realize the green revolution. We must guarantee every citizen's right to education, treatment, welfare and utilities. We must also invade the desert to discover its latent wealth and exploit it well. We must turn to Sinai, which we have liberated with the blood of our martyrs, and turn it into farms and factories. We must build mosques and churches, houses of knowledge and hospitals there. We must also build tourist sites in Sinai and devote to it the effort it deserves. He further said: Our victory on this good land in the battle of peace and construction is no less important than our victory in war and the liberation of land.

CAIRO WEEKLY ON COPTIC MINORITY PROBLEM IN EGYPT

LD210901 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 12 Apr 80 p 8

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Sa'dah article: "Copts of the United States"]

[Excerpts] Was it not strange what happened in the United States during the few days Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat was received in the U.S. capital?

Was it not strange that, while the American people accorded the Egyptian president a splendid reception, the president's pictures appeared on all the newspapers' front pages, and the news of his visit was the leading story on the radio and television, some Egyptian Copts bought a whole page in one of the daily papers in order to write about what they called the persecution of the Coptic minority in Egypt?

This, in my opinion, was both strange and suspicious.

The brother Copts collected several thousand dollars and used these to pay for a full-page advertisement in which they wrote about incidents in Egypt where we live and where we know what is happening, but which could happen in any country.

The paid advertisement spoke about religious persecution of the Coptic minority at the hands of the Muslim majority which consists of 39 million people out of Egypt's total population.

The paid advertisement not only levels this unjust accusation but also many other and more unjust and misleading accusations. The publishers of the advertisement and of leaflets that have been distributed spoke about the conspiracy of the Muslim majority and of the burning of churches of the Coptic minority. They also spoke about Coptic girls being kidnapped and forced to marry Muslim men, as well as about other barbaric actions.

The leaflets accuse the Muslim majority of falsifying the number of Copts in Egypt. While official census sources affirm that the Copts do not exceed 3 million, some of the Copts, according to their own census sources, say that their population is about 12 million.

In the light of these figures some of the Copts in the United States, known for fanaticism and extremism, believe that the rights of their brothers in Egypt have been lost. They believe that they are deprived of their rights and are suffering from endless problems, most important among which is the denial of their right to senior posts and, more serious still, their being prevented from performing their religious rites. [sentence as received]

In fact these leaflets reveal a discrepancy between what actually happens inside Egypt and what some of the Copts living abroad believe happens there. As I said in my article last week, the blame for ignorance of what is happening in Egypt does not lie with these people who emigrated from Egypt but with those who are in Egypt who have not attempted to put the full facts before these people abroad who are ignorant of the facts.

Recently the Coptic church in Cairo, having learned that the Copt fanatics and ultras in the United States intend to stage processions in protest against the situation in Egypt, last week sent Anba Samuel, a Copt church official, to the United States in an attempt to convince the Egyptian Copts there that the situation in Egypt is different from what they think it is and that the impression they have about the present and future of the Coptic minority is wrong.

It is unfortunate that the leaders of the extremist Coptic movement are prominent Egyptians who studied in the United States and have become professors at American universities. Nevertheless, their education and awareness has not made them realize the dangerous character of the course they are pursuing. In fact, I was told that the leader of the extremists has a doctorate degree but his only concern now is to slander Egypt with allegations about liquidation and persecution of the Coptic minority.

I regret what I saw in Washington. I saw the Egyptian president flying there in order to hold crucial talks for peace in the area. Meanwhile we were surprised to see come Egyptian Copts marching in a demonstration outside the venue of the negotiations and slandering the country they have left and the Egyptian Muslim people who love them and regard them as brothers having common interests with them.

What do the fanatics want?

Do they want to start a conflagration in the country in which they were brought up and educated and which they have now left in order to take up residence in the United States, and with which, as a result, they have lost their ties? Or do they imagine that a handful of Copts will be able to wreck the good reputation we have won in the eyes of U.S. public opinion as a democratic country seeking peace, simply by demonstrating before the White House and distributing leaflets which, to say the least, are false and fabricated?

We expect a great deal from Anba' Samuel. We expect him to explain to the Copts in the United States, Canada and Australia the seriousness of their actions, their extremism and their fanaticism and the consequences of this to the country they love at a distance. We sincerely hope that Anba' Samuel will succeed in his difficult and critical mission.

BUTRUS GHALI MEETS WITH UN TEAM 20 APRIL

NC201307 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali held a meeting today with members of the UN team currently visiting Cairo to report to the UN secretary general on the economic and social effects of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories. Dr Butrus Ghali explained to the team Egypt's efforts to end the suffering of the Palestinian people and to recover their full legitimate rights.

The team will visit Sinai and Gaza tomorrow to acquaint itself with the conditions of the Palestinians there.

'ALI SAYS U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY TO VISIT EGYPT IN APRIL

NC200824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0735 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 20 April--Egyptian Defense Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, currently on a visit to the United States, has told the newspaper AS-SIYASI that U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown will visit Egypt before the end of this month at the head of a delegation consisting of top aides.

Reporting this today, AS-SIYASI adds that Defense Minister 'Ali will return to Cairo next week, to be here to welcome the U.S. secretary.

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN DENIES IMMINENT CABINET RESHUFFLE

NC202201 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2155 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, 20 April--An official spokesman of the presidency in Egypt said tonight that the report disseminated by REUTER tonight to the effect that President Anwar as-Sadat will carry out a cabinet reshuffle next month is totally untrue. The official spokesman added that this matter is not under consideration in form or substance. He said: It is strange that REUTER should attribute the report to responsible sources when this report is completely baseless.

The spokesman explained that the change to which some Egyptian newspapers have referred is connected basically with the internal political and economic action, which is more important than routine changes in posts and personnel.

HOSTAGES ISSUE A 'FARCE'; U.S.-IRAN RELATIONS TO EXPAND

JN181645 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Paris--The forthcoming stage will witness great progress toward the consolidation of Iranian-U.S. relations and the expansion of their scope, after the exposure of the farce of the fabricated crisis of the U.S. hostages, who are detained in Tehran.

AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine, in a story to be published in Paris tomorrow, says that there is information stressing that the so-called crisis between Washington and Tehran is on the way to solution. It pointed out that Khomeyni himself will take upon himself the task of releasing the hostages after the game has become clear and well-known to the world public.

EMBASSY IN ANKARA RAPS IRAN'S 'IRRESPONSIBLE' ACTS

TA181640 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1615 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Ankara, 18 Apr (AA)--A statement issued by the Embassy of Iraq in Ankara claimed Iran was "facilitating" possible U.S. military intervention in the Middle East by "irresponsible" acts. Deploring the attacks on the Iraqi Embassy and two consulates in Iran, the statement charged Iran with carrying on a policy which threatened Arab sovereignty and interests and increased tension in the region, and with (?interfering in) the internal affairs of neighboring countries under the pretext of "exporting its Islamic revolution."

'PRO-IRAQI' MAGAZINE CLAIMS BAQIR AS-SADR EXECUTED

WA191830 London REUTER in English 1813 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Beirut, April 19, REUTER--A missing Iraqi Shi'ite Muslim leader was executed several days ago for taking part in anti-government plots, a pro-Iraqi magazine distributed in Beirut today said.

The Lebanese weekly AL-WATAN AL-ARABI, published in Paris, said Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqir as-Sadr was executed after being convicted of involvement in "Iranian plots against Iraq."

BULGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES TO 'RESTORE' RELATIONS

JN191626 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Bulgarian Foreign Affairs Minister Petur Mladenov arrived here this evening at the head of a delegation on a 2-day visit to Iraq. Mladenov said that he is carrying a message to President Saddam Husayn from Bulgarian head of state Todor Zhivkov. He added that he will hold talks with Iraqi officials in which he will stress his country's desire to restore diplomatic relations between the two countries, in addition to discussing international issues of common interest.

Talks Begin 20 April

JN201303 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 20 April--Official talks between Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi and Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov began here today. The two sides discussed the status of bilateral relations and expressed mutual understanding and readiness to solve all the difficulties facing these relations.

The Bulgarian minister expressed his country's eagerness to develop its relations with Iraq in all fields and expressed his appreciation of the Iraqi policy and stands since the 17 July 1968 revolution.

During the talks, Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said that Iraqi and Bulgaria are linked by strategic relations based on foundations of friendship, understanding and joint objectives. He also praised the Bulgarian stand on Iraq and the Arab countries in their struggle with the Zionist enemy.

The two sides also discussed international issues of mutual interest. The Bulgarian minister arrived in Baghdad yesterday carrying a written message for President Saddam Husayn from Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov.

Agreements Reached

JN201233 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov dealing with friendly bilateral relations and means of developing them in all fields. The message was conveyed to the president by Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov when he was received by the president at the presidential palace at noon today.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations in an atmosphere characterized by the spirit of friendship, understanding and mutual respect. They also agreed to discuss all issues that may affect these strategic relations. INA has learned that the meeting was cordial, constructive and had a positive effect on the development of relations between the two countries. INA has also learned that it was decided to send a delegation representing the National Students' Union to Bulgaria within a week to hold talks with the Bulgarian Students' Union, to work out a program of cooperation between the two unions, since they represent the masses of students in both countries.

It was also agreed to exchange visits at all levels to discuss the details of bilateral relations and to prepare for the Bulgarian president's visit to Iraq in the near future.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Mladenov Departs

JN201654 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 20 April--Petur Mladenov, Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo member and foreign affairs minister, left Baghdad today at the end of a 2-day visit. Mladenov expressed his satisfaction with the results of his talks with his Iraqi counterpart Dr Sa'dun Hammadi. He said that these talks were successful, dealt with bilateral relations and were permeated by an atmosphere of complete amity and understanding.

A press statement on the results of the two ministers' talks is scheduled to be released here and in Sofia tonight.

Joint Statement Issued

JN202053 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Apr 80

["Text" of Iraqi-Bulgarian joint statement issued in Baghdad on 20 April 1980]

[Text] At the invitation extended by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov paid an official and friendly visit to Iraq from 19 to 20 April 1980.

Petur Mladenov was received by Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and President of Iraq, to whom he delivered a message from Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and president of the State Council of Bulgaria.

The two ministers held talks and stressed that relations between Iraq and Bulgaria, which are based on friendship and mutual understanding, are of strategic importance. They expressed their governments' wish to develop these relations. The two sides agreed to undertake concrete steps in this respect, including the exchange of visits on various levels.

They also reviewed international issues of mutual interest. The two ministers reaffirmed their support for the inalienable national rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

Petur Mladenov expressed his deep thanks to Dr Sa'dun Hammadi on the hospitality and warm welcome he and the delegation accompanying him were accorded during their visit to Iraq. He extended an invitation to Dr Sa'dun Hammadi to visit Bulgaria. The invitation was gladly accepted.

OIL DELEGATION RETURNS TO BAGHDAD FROM USSR

JN191857 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Iraqi Oil Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan 'Alwan and the delegation accompanying him returned here this evening at the end of a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union. 'Alwan said that he had held talks with Soviet officials at the Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry and the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The talks dealt with ways of promoting bilateral cooperation and the exchange of expertise in the field of oil industry and refining. He added that an agreement was reached to conclude a protocol with the Soviet oil research institute for technical cooperation in order to exchange experts in the field of carrying out laboratory tests.

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION DEPARTS 19 APRIL

JN191835 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--The Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society delegation under the society's Deputy Chairman P.M. Avdeyenko left Baghdad this evening at the conclusion of a weeklong visit to Iraq. Avdeyenko said that he had held talks with officials of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society on ways to develop the two societies' work in the various fields.

CUBAN OFFICIAL DEPARTS AFTER 6-DAY VISIT

JN191310 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Humberto Perez Gonzalez, Cuban vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister president of the Central Planning Board, and the accompanying delegation left Baghdad today at the end of a 6-day visit to Iraq. While in Iraq, the Cuban official held talks with Iraqi officials on bilateral cooperation in the field of planning. He was seen off by Planning Minister Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

HAMMADI TELLS HELSINKI PAPER: WAR WITH IRAN UNLIKELY

LD210935 Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 14 Apr 80 p 9

[Ritva Remes report: "Iraq's Foreign Minister in Rouvaneimi: Iraq Will Not Enter a War"]

[Excerpts] Rouvaneimi. Iraq does not want a war for internal political or any other reasons, Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi affirmed in an interview he gave to Helsingin Sanomat in Rouvaneimi Sunday. The foreign minister said that he did not know much about the details of the skirmishes in Iraq because of his traveling. He thought, however, that there would not be a war between Iran and Iraq.

The foreign minister's visit to Finland began Saturday and continued Sunday in Rouvaniemi, from where the minister and his party flew to Helsinki in the evening. "War does not solve problems, we do not want it. There is in Iraq a lasting regime and our country is well developed. What we do need is peace," he said.

The ambassador mentioned three main factors behind the present unrest in the Persian Gulf. Iraq expects the Camp David negotiations between Israel and Egypt to fail. They will neither secure peace nor protect the position of the Palestinians. The second weighty factor has been the occupation of Afghanistan. Since the Soviet occupation the United States has become active in the area, posing a serious threat to security. The third factor is Iran, which is trying to export its revolution as a form of missionary activity. As an example of this Hammadi mentioned the bomb thrown into a student meeting a couple of weeks ago, killing and injuring students in Baghdad.

"We believe that the best thing that other countries can do to bring world peace is to avoid policies of hegemony and meddling in the internal affairs of others. Both the United States and the Soviet Union ought to stay out of the Persian Gulf," Hammadi warned. Governments should have relations with each other, friendly relations, but interfering in the affairs of others is a different matter

Iraq does not have diplomatic ties with the United States. In Hammadi's opinion there are no obvious reasons why they should be reestablished as long as the United States continues its present policies, which include support for Israel.

Leftwingers, the leaders of the Ba'th Party, on the other hand have links with the Soviet Union. The Iraqi Army has Soviet equipment. But relations have cooled since the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. "When the occupation took place, we expressed our opposition and we demanded Soviet withdrawal," Hammadi said. Hammadi characterized the links between the two countries at present as "cooperation." "But the cooperation is based on regard for small countries," Hammadi said.

China has no influence in the Gulf area according to Hammadi. Iraq's relations with China are friendly, but "China is a long way away."

"Iraq is like any other country. In all countries people who plot against the state are punished. We are not a nation ruled by clergy. We have a constitution and courts of law which sentence those found guilty." Although he does not believe in the possibility of war, Hammadi considers Iraq strong enough to defend its territory. Hammadi is not able to estimate the relative strength of the Iraqi and Iranian armies.

Of the agreement between the Soviet Union and Iraq Hammadi said that it was merely based on friendship and is thus unlike the agreement between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Iraq will not accept possible help from Soviet troops.

Hammadi said that the economic links between Finland and Iraq were continuing as before, even growing stronger. The links had developed strikingly quickly in recent months and at present Finland is Iraq's largest trading partner in Scandinavia. According to Hammadi, the reasons for this are many. Finland and Iraq are politically much the same. Their mutual understanding is reinforced by the fact that Iraq is a nonaligned nation and Finland is neutral. Iraq has also benefited from Finnish projects whose advanced technology Iraq does not possess.

Last year Finland delivered 410 million marks' worth of finished goods, raw materials, machinery, equipment and timber to Iraq. Finalnd imported 733 million marks' worth of oil, and 1 million marks' worth of other goods. The import of 1.2 million tons [of oil] is 10 percent of Finland's requirements; 2 million tons came from Saudi Arabia. Projects now under way embrace ventures amounting to 1.5 billion marks, and under discussion are new building projects worth many billions of marks.

According to Hammadi, Iraq intends to pursue its restrained pricing policy. Iraq's oil prices are considerably lower than prices on the free market.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM FINLAND, DENMARK

JN192026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2015 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi returned here tonight at the end of a 9-day visit to Finland and Denmark. Dr Hammadi said that his talks with the two countries' officials dealt with subjects related to promoting relations between Iraq and these two countries. He described the results of his visit as positive and said: I have felt the desire of the two countries' officials to develop their relations with Iraq on the basis of mutual interests, respect for sovereignty and noninterference in others' internal affairs.

The foreign minister pointed out that the Palestinian issue, the Arab-Zionist struggle, the Iranian regime's stands and the negative circumstances this regime created with the Arab states, particularly Iraq, occupied a considerable part of his talks with the Finnish and Danish officials.

PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY MEETS WITH SWAPO LEADER IN SALISBURY

JN190815 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Salisbury, 19 April--President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy to the celebrations on Zimbabwe independence, Hikmat Ibrahim, last night met with SWAPO leader Sam Ngoma. The discussions during the meeting centered on ways to develop the relations of joint struggle between the Arab Socialist Ba'th party and SWAPO to confront the imperialist-Zionist schemes and to combat colonialism and neocolonialism in Africa and the racial discrimination in South Africa.

Nugoma expressed his appreciation for the support the Ba'th Party is giving to SWAPO. He highly praised Iraq's role in backing the freedom and independence of the developing countries in the third world and in consolidating the nonaligned movement.

BUTRUS MAKES STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN SOUTH

NC191310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis today followed the situation in Lebanon, particularly the south. He held a lengthy meeting with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. During the meeting they fully assessed Lebanese diplomatic moves concerning the situation in the south in light of the consultations and discussions at the UN Security Council.

Foreign Minister Butrus said after the meeting: [begin recording] [Butrus] First, I do not agree with the use of the term attenuation [of the issue]. In fact there are many and varied positions because what has been happening in the south recently is stirring up all the causes of the differences in the area. These events are thus closely linked with underlying foreign policies and ambitions, primarily Israel's ambitions and aggressive policy. If we add to this the moves in southern Lebanon, which do not take into consideration the factors that must be considered regarding Lebanon's position, thus embarassing Lebanon; the latest flagrant aggression against the UNIFIL, which caused casualties; and the recent attack on As-Sarafand, it becomes clear that all these acts were no coincidence, particularly at this time, talks are underway on the Middle East issue in the United States. This coincidence is no coincidence. [as heard] Perhaps certain countries and parties have underlying motives and aims not in the interests of Lebanon or the Palestinian issue. In my view what is important is that we in Lebanon must not be victims of maneuvers which we unconsciously assist.

[Question] Your excellency, in light of Ambassador Tuwayni's briefing, will Lebanon continues to stand firm on insisting on the adoption of a resolution by the Security Council?

[Butrus] Yes, Lebanon has asked for, insisted on and will insist on the adoption by the Security Council of a resolution. Lebanon desires to learn fully the various attitudes toward its unity, territorial integrity and future. [end recording]

VOICE OF HOPE: TWO IRISH UNIFIL SOIDIERS KILLED IN SOUTH

NC191710 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0643 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Yesterday in Free Lebanon, after restrictions on UNIFIL movements had been lifted, a group of relatives of the youth who was killed by the Irish--while he was taking part a week ago in peaceful demonstrations--killed two Irishmen and wounded a third. The details of the incident as related by our correspondent are as follows: An American major, Eric Clay, who works with the UNIFIL in An-Naqurah, was taking two journalists and three Irish soldiers by car yesterday to Bint Jubayl. He stopped the car near the house of the family whose son had been killed by the Irish. Here a group of the dead youth's family detained the American and five who were with him. After verification of identities, Clay and the two journalists were released and fire was opened in revenge on the Irishmen, killing two of them and wounding the third.

Our correspondent has learned that General Erskine has reprimanded Major Clay and expelled him from the UN Command in An-Naqurah. Meanqhile, our correspondent has learned that Major Haddad appeared sorry and has said: I have advised General Erskine many times to prevent the movement of Irish soldiers inside Free Lebanon until wounds heal and the situation returns to normal.

BA'TH PARTY HOLDS SPEECH RALLY ON 'EVACUATION DAY'

JN171834 [Editorial Report] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic at 1510 GMT on 17 April 1980 begins a live broadcast of a rally held by the Damascus branch of the Ba'th Party at the Damascus University auditorium on the occasion of "evacuation day."

The rally is attended by Ba'th Party Regional Command Assistant Secretary General Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Ba'th Party National and Regional Command members, National Progressive Front Central Command members and ministers.

At 1517 GMT Zaki ar-Rikabi delivers a speech on behalf of the "veteran Syrian strugglers," in which he reviews the "acts of heroism" by the Syrian strugglers that made evacuation of the foreign troops possible and praises Syrian policy under President Hafiz al-Asad.

At 1531 GMT Faysal Summaq, president of the Revolution Youth Union, delivers a speech on behalf of mass organizations in which he enumerates the lessons learned from the evacuation, reviews enemy attempts to harm and weaken Syria because it represents Arab steadfastness in facing enemy conspiracies, and stresses the mass organizations' support for President al-Asad and his policies.

At 1550 GMT, National Progressive Front Central Command member Darwish az-Zuni delivers a speech on behalf of the front. Az-Zuni reviews the various stages that led to the evacuation and the Syrian people's struggle and sacrifices to this end. He then explains how the Syrian people, who believe in their cause, are united, having a solid internal front and having proven their ability to protect their independence and confront enemy conspiracies, with the help of their friends,"such as the Soviet Union and the and the socialist countries." He adds: "The Soviet Union stood besides us and continues to support the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation and for their right to return." Az-Zuni then accuses imperialism, led by the United States, of trying to subjugate the Arab homeland and render it a puppet. He also says imperialism has tried all of its methods to paralyze the Syrian people's capabilities, but has failed. Az-Zuni notes that the only method to achieve unity is "through building our strength and socialism, which are the suitable means of wiping out backwardness." Az-Zuni then stresses the need to consolidate national unity, within the framework of the National Progressive Front.

At 1610 GMT, Dr Sulayman Qaddah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, delivers a speech on behalf of the Ba'th Party in which he reviews the events that led to the evacuation. He also reviews political events in Syria and the enemy attempts "to abort Syria's steadfast stand." He notes that the enemies have used all means at their disposal, even resorting "to their reserve forces, the criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang, which began to fabricate sectarian strife and to divert Syria's attention from its primary battle." Qaddah then says that despite all of these conspiracies, the enemies will fail now as they have in the past because the Syrian people are capable of foiling all of their schemes. The rally ends at 1625 GMT.

IRAN'S BAKHTIAR VISITS BAGHDAD ON 'OFFICIAL INVITATION'

JN191949 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Paris--Shahpur Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of the deposed shah's regime, has announced that he has recently visited Baghdad and held talks with Iraqi Government officials. Bakhtiar pointed out that he did not knock on doors but responded to an official invitation from the competent Iraqi authorities.

Bakhtiar said that he does not doubt that the United States and the Iraqi Government are in agreement on their objectives. He welcomed any U.S. military intervention against Iran if it would lead to the overthrow of the revolution.

TISHRIN: U.S. MIDEAST POLICY RISKS DIRECT CONFRONTATION

JN201013 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Arab Homeland Will Not Become an American State," the newspaper TISHRIN syas: The United States is increasing its military presence in the Middle East and in waters near this area, which enjoys a strategic position and is rich in oil. The United States is also seeking to obtain bases and facilities in some sections for its military operations against the peoples in the area and is intensifying pressures and threats against Iran and the Arab countries, particularly Syria.

This U.S. political and military action exacerbates tension in this area, which has been suffering from constant tension and from the danger of armed disputes. This, in itself, reflects negatively on international relations and serves to create a hotbed of war in a world that has been aspiring to continue the process of international detente and to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on the UN Charter and principles and on the UN resolutions on the Middle East.

Regardless of the effect the U.S. presidential elections are having on the U.S. course, the U.S. moves in the Middle East are a perilous adventure. Direct confrontation with national liberation movements, which cannot be confined to certain boundaries in a certain area, is a possibility that should be taken into consideration.

The paper adds: There is no better evidence of the U.S. policy's aggressive nature than the U.S. declarations that the oil-producing areas in the Middle East are an aspect of U.S. national security interests. The hostile character of such U.S. statements cannot be mitigated by the carefully formulated claims concerning the imaginary dangers threatening the sources of oil, which is running in the veins of Western countries and replenishes the coffers of Western monopolists, with the United States at their head.

No one contests the fact that Middle East oil is flowing to Western European markets and that oil-producing countries have stressed that they have no intention of disturbing the current oil situation which places oil sources, oil production and the huge oil revenues in the hands of imperialists oil monopolists. The claim that there is a threat to oil sources is a U.S. fabrication, intended to cover up an aggressive move in the area, which, in turn, is intended to compensate for the strategic losses the United States has suffered in the Middle East as a result of the comprehensive Arab rejection of the Camp David agreements, the collapse of the shah's regime and of his oppressive role of oppression against the Arab nation and the failure of attempts to control Afghanistan.

The dangers that the United States is facing come from people who reject U.S. control and subjugation to Israeli blackmail. These dangers cannot be removed as long as the United States continues its attempts to rob the people of their freedom, resources, lands and rights. TISHRIN says: The Arabs have the full right to use all methods and means, including oil, money and force, to liberate their occupied Arab territories and to regain their rights. This right is acknowledged by the United Nations and by international law.

If the United States is talking loudly about its readiness to resort to military means for the sake of oil that is not its property and for the sake of land that is not its own, would it be too much for the Arabs to remind the people that they possess the means of liberating their territories, regaining their rights, implementing UN resolutions and establishing a just and lasting peace?

TISHRIN concludes: The U.S. threat to use force does not scare the Arabs and will never scare Syria. The resolutions adopted by the steadfastness and confrontation front conference in Tripoli indicate that the Arabs will never accept the occupation of their territories by Israel, never relinquish the Palestinian people's national rights and never bend to U.S. imperialist control, regardless of the cost and the consequences that such a stand may have for the area and the world.

The Arabs are determined to use all methods they have in their own countries, in the Arab homeland and in the international arena to defend themselves and their rights, liberate their territories and defeat the imperialist and Zionist enemy. President Hafiz al-Asad's repeated affirmations that the Arabs are determined to confront and foil the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy mean that the Arab homeland will not become an American state and that the Arabs are capable of substantiating their words with action, as their history has proven so many times.

U.S. MIDEAST POLICY AIMED AT 'PUNISHING' SYRIA, ARAB WORLD

JN191020 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Apr 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria Represents the Stand, the Cause, the Nation and the Citizens in the Conflict of Wills," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Five weeks still remain between us and 26 May, the date for the so-called autonomy. It is a short period but suffices for intensive efforts to be exerted in two opposing directions in which every party must organize its weapons and plan its struggle according to its own visualizations and calculations in order to guarantee a strategy for the future stage.

In the first direction, we can imagine the fierceness of the dispute and the violence of the confrontation because Camp David, as a political and strategic course, and autonomy, one result of Camp David, have reached a deadend. In practice this means that the U.S. prestige and the political, economic and military weight it has mobilized to impose the conspiracy on the Arab nation have foundered. Thus, we can imagine how impetuous, nervous and vengeful the U.S. reaction will be, particularly in the next 5 weeks, in an attempt to retrieve U.S. prestige, regardless of the losses. We thus caution against the delusion that the United States will give up easily and accept the outcome of Camp David and its Middle East policy. That's why we believe a U.S. counterreaction began sometime ago. A quick look at the development of events in the area will perhaps reveal to us some of the aspects and trends of the U.S. moves and reaction in Lebanon, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia, the Arab Gulf, Iran and the new alliances that have emerged in the area after being camouflaged by glittering masks.

TISHRIN adds: In Syria, the central base for the conflict between the two wills--the Arab nation's will and that of U.S. imperialism--the United States has implemented its well-known arrangements and methods which have been revealed and defeated one after the other. Europe has also been mobilized in a quick political attempt to save Camp David. Despite the fact that all the reactionary tools the United States used against Syria to defeat it from the inside have collapsed in the hands of the revolution and that the forces the United States had in reserve, on which the United States had wagered, have been liquidated too, the United States will exploit the next 5 weeks and will use all available means and all kinds of weapons it believes will help it win the battle.

We have repeatedly stated that the battle with the United States is one of breaking the enemy's back. It is a battle to defeat wills with all the means, tools, fierceness and hatred this battle requires. The battle will take a more violent aspect in the next stage because the two wills will clash and one must necessarily cancel the other.

Syria did not choose the battle with the United States and did not start it. Syria chose its national will. It also chose to reject all that contradicts the interests of its people and Arab nation. Syria is fully aware of the U.S. power and might. But because the United States cannot imagine that Syria, with only 9 million people, with its independent national decision and its free will, can reject all that has been imposed on it and because Syria is looking for free national choices and protecting pan-Arab interests, then it must be punished.

This, in short, is the main trend of the U.S. moves in the next stage.

AFP REPORTS ASSASSINATION OF COMMUNIST LEADER 'AWWAD

NC211025 Paris AFP in English 1016 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Damascus, April 21 (AFP)--Leading Syrian Communist Party member at Aleppo, 'Umar 'Awwad, also known as Abu Salim, was assassinated by members of the Muslim Brotherhood, the party's office in the North Syrian town revealed today. The party gave no details of the time of the murder in a communique to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Bureau here. But it denied that "imperialist Israeli reactionary cliques" were responsible for Mr 'Awwad's death.

The assassination was the first killing of a communist leader in the latest round of disturbances in Syria. Mr 'Awwad "devoted his life to support the causes of the Syrian people and its working class" the Party's statement said.

The Muslim Brotherhood, which preaches pan-Arabism and integration of church and state, has been linked with several terrorist operations in the Middle East.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV ARRIVES 21 APRIL ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN211134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Chairman Todor Zhivkov, Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary and State Council chairman, arrived at 1115 this morning on an official and friendly visit to the country. He is leading a party and state delegation. President Hafiz al-Asad was at the head of the welcoming delegation, which included Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar.

TALKS WITH CUBANS BEGIN IN HAVANA; MALMIERCA BEGINS VISIT

LD161418 Algiers APS in English 1316 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Havana, 16/4 (APS)--Algerian-Cuban political talks started April 14 at the Cuba Communist Party's headquarters in Havana, between the FLN delegation led by Politburo member and interior minister and the Cuban Communist Party (CCP) led by Mr Machado Ventura, Politburo member of the State Council. Talks centered on the relations between the two parties, on the international situation, and the prospects of strengthening cooperation between the two revolutions. On the other hands, Cuban foreign minister, Mr Isdoro Malmierca, arrived Tuesday on an official visit to Algeria. In a short to press, [as received] Mr Malmierca indicated his visit stands within a tour of different countries for working out a peaceful solution to the current situation in the south west of Asia. "In this context, he added, we have already been in a Syria, Indian, Iraq and in Libya". Mr Malmierca said he met with President Chadli while in Libya, to whom he transmitted a message from Cuban President Fidel Castro.

U.S. DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR GAS SUPPLY TALKS

LD202203 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] An important American delegation led by Mr Goldman, assistant secretary in charge of foreign affairs [as heard] arrived in Algiers this afternoon. It was welcomed at the Houari Boumediene airport by Mr (Kerbah), secretary general of the Ministry of Energy and Petrochemicals, by senior officials of the same department and by Mr Paul [name indistinct], U.S. Ambassador to Algiers. In a statement to the press, Mr Goldman said that he came to Algiers to start negotiations between Elpaso and Sonatrach regarding gas supplies to his country. He said also that relations between Algeria and the United States are as excellent and mutually advantageous as in the past and that there were wide prospects for strengthening them.

PRESIDENT TO CALL 'URGENT' ARAB SUMMIT

LD191326 Kuwait KUNA in English 1143 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Kuwait, April 19 (KUNA)--Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will invite Arab countries to an urgent summit, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported Saturday. AL-ANBA', quoting informed Arab sources, said the summit would discuss current issues in the Arab world, especially the conflicts among certain Arab countries. No mention of a specific date for the conference was made. The paper indicated that Bendjedid informed steadfastness leaders of Libya, South Yemen, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization [words indistinct] during the Tripoli summit last week. The leaders were reported to have agreed. Earlier, the Steadfastness Front summit had decided to establish a joint military command and political and information committees. It also called for fostering relations with the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, an Arab summit conference is scheduled in Amman, Jordan, next November.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH CLOSES PLANNING SEMINAR

LD191626 Algiers APS in English 1225 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Algiers, 19/4/80 (APS)--President Chadli Benjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of FLN Party, presided Thursday over the closing session of the 8th seminar on regional planning at Club des Pins (Algiers).

President Chadli Benjedid pronounced on this occasion an important speech in which he evoked the main axes of the next development plan insisting on the necessity of fully using human and material potentialities of the country. Five other seminars have been recently organized in different parts of the country. They set up suggestions for the next national development plan which will cover a period of 5 years. In his speech, the president of the republic said all the live forces of the nation should be mobilized in order to materialise the different projects. Management and production should be mastered through a global and scientific planning conforming to the basic options of the country he added.

As for the problem of brain-drain, President Chadli Bendjedid stressed the necessity to encourage the national cadre and guarantee his (as received) stability so that he will fully assume his role.

The president then shifted to problems of supplying, commercialisation and production and said the necessity to encourage the private non-exploiting sector and small dealers. [sentence as received]

In an allusion obviously to the recent troubles which took place [at] the universities of Algiers and Tizi Ouzou, President Chadli stressed the importance of dialogue in every field and urged citizens to express their opinions on different issues. He rejected any kind of pressures in the making of political decisions and asserted that the cultural heritage belongs to the Algerian people as a whole and is an expression of the national personality.

President Chadli Benjedid denounced colonialist attempts to divide the Algerian people and said all these attempts failed thanks to the cohesion of our people and their attachment to their Arabity, Islam and Algerianity. "The national unity which has been sealed with the blood of our martyrs will in no case whatsoever be broken because the revolution will check all attempts which can threaten here", he said.

In conclusion, President Chadli evoked the different points which will be examined by the central committee in its next session. He mentioned problems relating to agriculture, tourism and Arabisation.

GROUPS CONDEMN 'ANARCHY' AT UNIVERSITIES, SUPPORT REGIME

LD201448 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Hundreds of cables from various state and party groups continue to arrive at the political leadership. The cables reiterate absolute support for the political leadership and express readiness to defend the principles and objectives of the revolution. At the same time, the cables strongly denounce the acts of anarchy and chaos instigated recently by the imperialists and reactionaries at the universities of Tizi Ouzou and Algiers.

The National Executive Committee of the General Federation of Algerian Workers met recently and issued a resolution expressing the workers' denunciation of the maneuvers and activities of imperialism and reaction, which it said are aimed at impeding the revolutionary march in our country through the use of pressures and economic and diplomatic interferences. The committee added that the escalation of moves by reaction and imperialism at this particular juncture of time is aimed essentially at the efforts being exerted by the political leadership and social forces of the revolution and to rectify the social, economic and cultural conditions and thereby serve the interests of the wide popular masses and entrench the socialist line which is the basic prerequisite for the safeguarding of national independence.

The committee called on all workers' cadres to close their ranks so as to solve the urgent social and vocational problems of the workers, to defend and entrench the principles of the revolution and its gains and also to foil all attempts by the enemies of the revolution internally and externally. These enemies are trying to exploit the problems of the masses and by all cheap methods to stop the revolution.

It has been learned, on the other hand, that the police authorities have arrested a number of people who had disturbed public security and set fire to the national flag. They are: prisoner Sinousi Mohammed, Radwan Rabeh, Boudrsa Omar and Bougarwi Elarbi who will be referred to courts.

These barbaric acts prove that the disturbances at the University of Tizi Ouzou have provided a pretext for other groups of enemies of Algeria to foment trouble using objectives which the students themselves cannot reject.

OFFICIAL RECEIVES GDR DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE

LD191630 Algiers APS in English 1230 GMT 14 Apr 80

[Text] Algiers, 19/4/80 (APS)--Colonel Kasdmi Merbah, FLN Politburo member, secretary general of the Defence Ministry, received Thursday Mr Friedmar Clausnitzer, vice minister of foreign trade of the German Democratic Republic (GDR). The two officials reviewed different aspects of bilateral cooperationbetweenAlgeria GDR.

LIBYA

JANA CITES TUNISIAN REVOLUTIONARIES' COMMUNIQUE

LD181954 Tripoli JANA in English 1908 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Tripoli, April 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Revolutionary Command of the Liberation of Tunisia released a communique affirming that the oppressive Tunisian regime's brutal executions on Thursday April 17 of 13 of the revolutionaries who revolted against terror and repression was only a chain in the series of crimes committed by the dictator ruling party of Tunisia.. Brutal oppression is characteristic of this bloddy regime whose list of crimes include: collaboration with the French colonialism to assassinate the leader Farhat Hashad; mass killing in the mid- ifties, the killing of struggler Saleh Ben Yousef, the execution of the Arab Mujahideen following the uprising of 1962, the shooting of innocent citizens in Wardanin, the massacre of January 1978 and now the execution or the free revolutionaires who led the popular uprising in Gafsah.

The communique went on to say that the people's forces will not give up struggle or fear oppression as they believe that their pathis long and difficult. The movement states in its communique: "We vow to the masses before Allah and the martyrs that we will retaliate for the death of the freedom fighters and react firmly to the regime!"

Those who oppress will sooner or later pay for it. The blood of the creators of the regime and of any person supporting it is to be shed. Every person in our country should retaliate to avenge the martyrs' pride and dignity. At this critical stage of our Tunisian people, who are struggling for full liberation from the claws of oppression and dependence, we call upon the Arab nation, foremost the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and the Islamic nation led by the Islamic revolution in Iran and all the revolutionary and progressive regime, to take a firm stand with the Arab people of Tunisia and to stop all assistance to the oppressive regime, because the people do not benefit from such assistance, which goes straight to the pockets of the regime's men which makes it stronger.

MAURITANIA

CMSN URGES GREATER ARAB UNITY, VIGILANCE

AB180920 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The Permanent Committee of the CMSN [Military Committee for National Salvation] met on Thursday, 17 April 1980 under the chairmanship of Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state and government. The Permanent Committee examined the national and international situation. The minister in charge of the CMSN headquarters presented a report on the recent visit of a Mauritanian delegation to Iraq. During its visit the delegation participated in the Arab People's Congress which took place in Baghdad from 20 to 28 March 1980 to examine the proposal of an Arab force. The Permanent Committee expressed satisfaction about the results of this congress and the reception accorded our delegation in the sister republic of Iraq.

The Permanent Committee of the CMSN examined with particular attention the present situation in the Arab world and analyzed the pernicious maneuvers now obstinately and cynically directed against the unity and fundamental interests of the Arab nations. It recalled that the safeguarding of the dignity and superior interests of the Arab nations ineluctably depend on the constant consolidation of the unity of the Arab nations and the maintenance at all costs of an independent Arab policy. (?Our fundamental objectives) demand that we should save our nations from playing into the hands of the superpowers and that we should constitute a (?bulwark) against their hegemony. In the very difficult situation it is experiencing [words indistinct], the Arab world should transcend internecine quarrels [words indistinct]. The CMSN therefore appeals to all the brotherly Arab countries to redouble their vigilance and to pool their efforts and resources together in order to effectively face their relentless enemies--Zionis and imperialism. The CMSN urges all the brotherly Arab countries to reject all attempts--regardless of their origin or nature--aimed at dividing them and diverting their attention from their nations' essential and vital problems and from the just policy of nonalignment and unity.

MOROCCO

GOVERNMENT BREAKS DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH LIBYA

LD182022 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abderrahmane Baddou [as received] this afternoon received Abdallah as-Suwaysi, the Libyan Ambassador to Rabat and informed him of the decision taken by the government of his majesty to sever diplomatic relations with his country.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GDR SIGNED IN RABAT

LD191402 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Rabat, Apr 19 (MAP)--Morocco and East Germany concluded here Friday their first economic, scientific and technical cooperation agreement. The documents of the agreement have been signed by Mr. Abdelhaq Tazi, Moroccan secretary of state for cooperation, and Mr. Friedmar Clausintzer, vice-minister of foreign trade of East Germany. The joint Moroccan-East German commission will hold its next meeting by the end of the current year in East Germany.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM CHADIAN PRESIDENT

JN201741 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Khartoum, April 20 (SUNA)--The Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei has sent a message to the Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on the situation in Chad.

The message was handed today to the Sudanese Foreign Minister Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr by Chadian Construction and Public Work Minister Abdoulaye Adam Danna.

Bakr discussed with Mr Danna the possibility of a cease-fire and restoration of peace in Chad. The foreign minister told the Chadian official that Sudan was ready to extend any possible aid to the Chadian brothers to help stop fighting there.

He also said President Numayri is in an unceasing contact with the heads of states of countries bordering Chad and the O.A.U. headquarters to contain the dispute.

He added that the Sudanese delegation which President Numayri had decided to send to Ndjamena to work out a cease-fire agreement was unable to go there because of security reasons in the Chadian capital.

TUNISIA

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA ANNOUNCES PARTY APPOINTMENTS

LD191600 Tunis TAP in English 1405 GMT 19 Apr 80

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, April 19 (TAP)--New appointments within the structures of the Desturian Socialist Party (PSD) have been decided by President Bourguiba who announced them Friday to the PSD Political Party.

Mr Hedi Zghal, youth and sports minister is thus appointed member of the Political Bureau replacing Mr Mohamed Fitouri, former foreign minister.

Mr Mongi Kooli, former minister (?is) again member of the Party's Central Committee and five old militants of the party have been appointed members of the militants' Consultative Council.

Stressing the party's role in the setting up of the foundations of democracy in Tunisia, President Bourguiba recommended to officials at the national level to avoid the plurality of responsibilities and to renounce from presenting their candidature to the coming municipal elections so as to open new horizons for a greatest number of young people having competence.

President Bourguiba also expressed the will to see all social categories represented in town councils. He gave his directives consisting in granting a particular priority to women so that they occupy the place they deserve in these structures.

Furthermore, a report submitted to the meeting by the PSD director on the growth of the number of admissions in the party reveals that this number went from 765,000 in 1978 to 780,000 in 1979.

MAJOR DIAMOND ROBBERY IN RAMAT GAN DIAMOND EXCHANGE

TA181523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The value of the diamonds stolen at the Ramat Gan diamond exchange is estimated at this moment at being between 80 and 100 million pounds. Dozens of policemen are carrying out searches in the exchange. Hundreds of workers have not been allowed to leave the building. Those leaving are being searched thoroughly. Our correspondent Mikha'el Huller reports that security personnel in the exchange are also searching people leaving the building.

Our correspondent reports on the circumstances around the robbery, reporting that diamond dealers Yosef and Menahem Herskovitch and broker Hayim Schwartzberg were in one of the offices on the 13th floor. Someone activated the door button. Herskovitch opened the door and a person he did not know asked him if he wanted to buy diamonds. He received a negative answer. A few minutes later the button was pushed again, however this time a masked man burst into the room carrying a gun with silencer, a hand grenade and a bag with ropes. The man told Menahem Herskovitch to tie up the other two people. He then told him to tie himself up and finally the robber stuffed rags into their mouths. He tied the grenade to the table and said if they moved there would be an explosion. He then took the diamonds and fled.

The dealers released themselves 8-10 minutes later and activated the alarm bell. A short while later the building was sealed.

REPORTAGE ON MURDER OF IRISH UNIFIL SOLDIERS

Soldiers, Journalists Taken Hostage

TA181633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The UN spokesman in Beirut has said that the Christian militias in southern Lebanon today took hostage five UN soldiers and two journalists of the U.S. press agency ASSOCIATED PRESS. The spokesman said that a group of militia fighters, apparently 13 to 15 years old, stopped the seven, who were driving in a caravan of four cars near the township of Bint Jubayl. Three of the hostages belong to the Irish unit and the two others are observers: one French and the other American. They were accompanied by two other Irish soldiers. However, they were injured during exchanges of fire with the Christians and were later released. The two were hospitalized in a UN hospital.

Major Sa'd Haddad told the Norwegian radio reporter that he would agree to stationing a Norwegian unit instead of the Irish unit. According to Oslo radio, Haddad said that he trusted the Norwegian soldiers.

Family Vendetta on UN Soldiers

TA181824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] A south Lebanese family whose son was killed a few days ago by UN Irish soldiers carried out a vendetta today. The family's sons took prisoner three soldiers belonging to the Irish unit, killed two of them and wounded the third. Our correspondent reports that this is not related to the Christian militias. Therefore, the UN spokesman in Beirut was mistaken when saying that the militias were the ones who perpetrated the act.

UN Commander Refuses Evacuation

TA182111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The commander of the Irish battalion in the UN emergency force in southern Lebanon refuses to obey the orders of his superior, General Erskine, to evacuate the soldiers under his command from the area of the village of At-Tiri. Our correspondent Yehezqe'el Hame'iri has learned that in a meeting between General Erskine and the commander of the Irish battalion at the UN headquarters in An-Naqurah, the Irish soldier refused to obey the orders. Then, General Erskine left the meeting as an act of protest.

Details on Death

TA190541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] South Lebanese militamen have murdered two UN soldiers from Ireland and badly wounded a third. The killing happened after militiamen ambushed a UN convoy near Bint Jubayl. The gunmen were led by the brother of a teenage militiaman killed during a clash between Irish UN troops and south Lebanese militia last week.

ASSOCIATED PRESS newsmen Steve (Hindley) and (Saven Vartan) were with the UN soldiers captured in yesterday's ambush. The convoy was on its way to a UN observation post. (Hindley) said the UN had been told it could travel through militia territory and that the journey was approved by militia commander Sa'd Haddad and Israeli liason officers. A militia escort officer failed to turn up, but the convoy was nevertheless told it could go ahead.

After the convoy was ambushed (Hindley), (Vartan) and a French and American UN officer were separated from their three Irish UN drivers. The Irishmen were taken into a room in a bombed out school and shots were heard. Two Irishmen ran out of the room but were caught by other militiamen. The third Irishman had been shot in the stomach, thigh and foot. The two Irishmen were taken away. The rest of the group was allowed to leave with the wounded soldier. He is now in a UN field hospital.

The bodies of the two Irishmen were later handed over to the UN. They had been shot in the back of the neck.

A UN spokesman in Beirut said 41 UN soldiers have now died since the UN force entered southern Lebanon 2 years ago but, he added, it was the first time two had been murdered in cold blood.

Haddad Denies Militia Responsible

TA190910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad, the commander of the militias in southern Lebanon has again called for the evacuation of the Irish units of the UN force in the region. He says that the mood in the area is still stormy, and he cannot continue to be responsible for further developments.

This morning Haddad strongly denied that militia fighters murdered the two Irish soldiers in southern Lebanon. He said that these soldiers had been seized by the inhabitants of one of the Shi'ite villages, family members of the youth who was killed 2 weeks ago in an exchange of fire with the Irish units.

Haddad said that he had recently warned the UNIFIL commanders against traveling through the salients because of the stormy mood there. Major Haddad was speaking with our correspondent Yehezqe'el Hame'iri.

Weizman Expression of Regret

TA191953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] This evening, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman expressed deep regret over the death of two soldiers of the Irish battalion yesterday, and sent his condolences to their families. Nevertheless, Minister Weizman emphasized that he firmly rejected accusations that Israel had encouraged or had been involved in the incident. That is a foolish thought, Weizman told us this evening.

Minister Weizman added that Israel has and will continue to support Major Haddad's forces in southern Lebanon. In addition to our commitment toward the Christians in southern Lebanon, this support is one of the means to guard the northern border and prevent the infiltration of terrorists. Therefore, this is in Israel's national interest.

Its support notwithstanding, Minister Weizman said, Israel does not control Major Haddad. Israel will continue in its efforts to persuade Haddad to change his attitude toward the UN forces. The IDF and Weizman personally are holding contacts with the UN headquarters on the matter.

Haddad Reportedly Apprehends Killers

TA200611 Jerusalem POST in English 20 Apr 80 pp 1, 2

[By David Landau and Hirsch Goodman]

[Excerpts] The murder on Friday of two Irish UNIFIL soldiers by south Lebanese Shi'ite villagers has dramatically increased tension in southern Lebanon and has earned Israel--as the supporter of Maj Sa'd Haddad's Christian militia--a new dose of international opprobrium.

Both the IDF and Haddad disclaimed responsibility for the incident, in which the victims were kidnapped together with several other UNIFIL and UNTSO personnel, and later identified as Irishmen and shot in cold blood. The murder was apparently intended as vengeance for the death, by rocket-fire from Irish units, of a Shi'ite youth at the village of At-Tiri 10 days ago.

IDF sources indicated to the Jerusalem POST last night that Haddad had apprehended the men who had done the killing. "What he intends doing with them we don't know," an IDF source said. "We, for our part, intend to discuss the question with him today, but we have very little authority in this region. The problem," he added, "is that there is no established procedure of law and order in the south (of Lebanon) and Haddad is autonomous."

If Haddad decides to take action against the murderers, Israeli observers feel, he may be jeopardizing his tenuous power base among the Shi'ite Muslims, who are the majority of the population in the Haddad-controlled area and are seen as only "conditionally loyal" to Haddad.

Over the past year there has been growing participation by Shi'ites in the militia leadership. The family from Bint Jubayl believed to have been involved in this particular killing is extremely influential among the Shi'ites.

The IDF took no position last night on what it would like Haddad to do.

"We intend to dissociate ourselves as much as possible from this whole incident over which we--and we believe Haddad--had no control," the IDF source said.

Major Haddad on Blood Feud

TA201615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] The commander of the Christian militias in southern Lebanon, Sa'd Haddad, has warned that the blood feud between the Shi'ite villagers and the Irish UNIFIL unit will continue until there is a traditional appeasement [sulha] between the sides, Sa'd Haddad said this at a news conference in Bint Jubayl, and he said that if there is no appeasement in accordance with the Arab tradition, the bloodshed will continue.

(Mahmud Barzi), aged 35, also appeared at the news conference and announced that he had been one of the 50 who took part in the murder of Sgt [as heard] Derek Smallhorn and Pvt Thomas Barrett. He explained to the correspondents why he had taken part in the murder. If somebody from my family is murdered, he said, we must murder in reaction. He warned that there were 6,000 people in his family and each of them was prepared to swear that he had pressed the fatal trigger.

Ambassador to Ireland on Murder

TA201830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1810 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Britain, Shlomo Argov, who is also appointed to Dublin, has accused Ireland of having an unfriendly attitude toward Israel. In a broadcast over Irish radio, he defended Jerusalem's aid to Sa'd Haddad's forces and expressed regret for the murder of the Irish soldiers.

Haddad on Shi'ite Feud

TA202016 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Maj Sa'd Haddad interviewed by Dan Semama in Bint Jubayl; Haddad's answers in French--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Semama] Major Haddad himself is in a delicate situation. The entire world is protesting the murder of the two Irishmen, and he cannot act against the murderers. There are two reasons for this: Haddad is a Christian, and he must not give the inhabitants of Bint Jubayl, the Shi'ites, cause to rebel against him; and the second reason is that the Irish, according to him, have not investigated the circumstances of the killing of the Shi'ite youth, and so the bloodshed is permissable on the Arab streets. This being so, we asked him what is the solution to the situation.

[Haddad] According to the custom, the customs in Lebanon, there must be a conciliation. If not, the feud will continue. This must be ended by taking into consideration the two parties involved that are quarreling, in order to find a solution.

[Semama] Do you believe that this is possible as long as the Irish are here?

[Haddad] I am doubtful. I am doubtful because they now have a very bad reputation among the population, the citizens, and this is causing a great deal of trouble.

Minister Shamir Condolence Cable

TA200852 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Apr 80 p 1

[Excerpt] Last night Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sent a cable to the Irish foreign minister and Government on his and the Israeli Government's behalf expressing his "deep sorrow over the tragic death of two UN Irish soldiers in southern Lebanon."

Yitzhaq Shamir asked that his condolences be passed on to the bereaved families. He also expressed the hope and belief that through the joint effort of all the parties involved calm will again prevail in that area.

WEST BANK VILLAGERS ATTACK SOLDIERS; SOLDIERS WOUND TWO

TA211015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] This morning villagers attacked three soldiers who were in a civilian truck and injured two near the village of Az-Zahiriyah, southwest of Hebron. The soldiers were forced to open fire, wounding two of the attackers--one of them seriously.

Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports the following details about the sequence of events: The three soldiers were in a truck near the village of Dayr al-'Asal Tahta when villagers threw sticks and rocks at them. The soldiers tried to escape to the main road at the entrance to the village, where a bus was parked along the road. One person got on the bus and drove it into the soldiers' van, causing a lot of damage. The soldiers got off the vehicle and tried to escape on foot but again confronted hundreds of villagers and were attacked with sticks and rocks. Two of the soldiers were hurt. The soldiers used a walkie-talkie to call for help, but when encircled by the locals, opened fire and hurt two of them. They were thus able to ward off the attack until help arrived.

A military government and police force began investigating and has already arrested sixteen villagers suspected of having participated in the attack.

BEGIN MAKES STATEMENT ON RETURN FROM WASHINGTON

TA181623 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0915 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Statement by Prime Minister Menahem Begin on arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport following visit to Washington--live]

[Excerpts] The most important achievements of the visit, in my opinion, is the renewal of the unity of the U.S. leadership's support for Israel, its policy and its government. A meeting was held yesterday attended by over 1,000 people, the leaders of all Jewish organizations under the President's conference, the bonds, from Los Angeles, Florida, the east coast and there were VIP's who had nowhere to sit and who sat on the floor and we could see, with our own eyes, how we created a single attitude of the recognized leadership of U.S. Jewry with respect to Jerusalem; with respect to the autonomy not becoming, under any circumstances, a Palestinian state by our insuring that only an administrative council be elected and; thirdly, that security in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, both domestic and external, including the fight against terrorism, be in Israel's hands.

U.S. Jewry is not only prepared to stand up, but also to fight for these three things, and there is a total unity of heart within U.S. Jewry. Again, I wish to say that in my opinion this is the most important achievement of the visit. Even if there are exceptions here and there, people who think that because they have a little money they can dictate a defeatist policy to us I wish to say here, you have to know that with all due respect to your money that our lives, the life of one Israeli child is more important than all the millions that you inherited from your ancestors and we will stand firm on our rights and not pay attention to the articles and letters you are publishing for the perusal of other peoples in order to try and weaken our position, it will not be weakened.

Now to the political deliberations. We had a 3-day visit in Washington, all of them in the U.S. capital. We did not visit New York. We were only in transit there because of a lack of time. Two days were devoted to discussions with the President and his aides. I had three tete-a-tete meetings with the President where we resolved several problems of major importance for Israel's future. The attitude was very positive. In the joint meetings the most important problems pertaining to the continuation of the negotiations were raised with respect to the autonomy arrangements for the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

We prepared written proposals. As you know, this is the right way to take initiative and the initiative was in our hands. I cannot go into details about the contents of the document because it is still being negotiated between the Americans and the Egyptians, but it includes very important points around which the deliberations will take place. All the prophecies in our press--I don't know their source--to the effect that agreement was reached between the United States and Egypt and that when we arrived we would simply be asked to sign it and that we would face pressures or a confrontation--all these prophecies have been shattered against the rock of reality. We know of no agreement between Egypt and the United States at this stage of the deliberations. On the contrary, the Americans stressed that no such agreements were made and they were awaiting our visit.

The discussions were good, serious, sometimes totally frank with respect to positions. We left no doubts about our positions, no doubts. I think that the crown of these deliberations was Jerusalem. Those deliberations lasted for 2 hours. We made it clear, and I want to thank the minister of the interior here for his part in these discussions which can be termed historic, we made it absolutely clear that we will not agree, not permit and not enable any partitioning of Jerusalem, not only directly but indirectly as well and we will not play with words.

In his speech to the National Press Council in Washington President as-Sadat spoke about Arab sovereignty over East Jerusalem while President Carter proposed that we grant the Arab inhabitants of East Jerusalem the right to vote for the autonomy institutions. Both of these proposals imply the partitioning of Jerusalem. There cannot be two sovereignties over Jerusalem, Israeli and, as President as-Sadat said, Arab. There will be only one single sovereignty in Jerusalem, that of Israel. This is what we said to President Carter and under no circumstances will we agree nor will we permit under any condition that part of the population of Jerusalem--the Arabs--vote for the autonomy institution. There is no connection between the autonomy and Jerusalem. Jerusalem does not appear in the Camp David agreements. There are three letters, one from me to President Carter in which I inform him that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, one city which cannot be partitioned. This time we stressed this and today it is absolutely clear to the Americans that any discussion with us on this matter will be useless, pointless.

Now I wish to explain why it is possible to reach agreement on the autonomy to include this position. It must be remembered that in the final analysis this problem of Jerusalem is not an Egyptian problem. The Egyptians are Muslims, all respect the holy places. Two mosques have been built on the temple mount. This is the temple mount, the holiest place for the people of Israel and it will always remain as such. However, we respect the places holy to Islam and these two mosques are holy to them. We will respect their freedom of access and we will not intervene in the running of their affairs, but is this an Egyptian problem? Is this an aspect of the history of the Egyptian people?

The same can be said for the Christians--free access for the Christians to all places holy to the Christian religion. Is this an historic problem for the Christian peoples? However, Jerusalem is part of the history of the people of Israel from the days of King David and up to this very day--over 3,000 years. This is the heart of the nation not only in Eretz Yisrae'el but in the whole world.

The second thing that was the subject of serious deliberation was the administrative council. As you know the Egyptians proposed to us that we establish a legislative assembly as well as an executive and judicial authority. This is in accordance with Montesqieu who spoke about Britain with respect to the division of authority, but this has been applied in the United States as well. Such a thing would create a Palestinian state in every form but name. We are not playing with names because we are talking about our lives and the lives of our children. A Palestinian state, all but in name [last sentence in English]. This is what we said to the U.S. President. Therefore, we stand by the whole of the Camp David agreement where it is written an administrative council, a self-governing authority--an administrative council. An administrative council should comprise a maximum number of people so that it does not become a kind of parliament. We also made this position absolutely clear.

As for security we explained that if security is not in our hands then Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and the state of Israel as it existed prior to the 6-day war will become a second Lebanon and a much more serious version of it. There will be ceaseless bloodshed and not only people will be killed, but peace will be murdered. Therefore, security must remain in our hands. Here too we will abide by the Camp David agreements. We did not agree to the establishment of a security committee and such a committee will not arise, but if the Egyptians accept this principle then we, my colleagues headed by Dr Burg who serve as the negotiating team, will hold deliberations with the Egyptian and U.S. teams on what is termed arrangements, say, cooperation with the local police that is to be established, and so forth, but under the condition--and I even used the English word precondition [last word in English] that the Egyptians a priori announce that they accept this principle, that domestic and external security, including the fight against terrorism with respect to the perpetration of acts of violence, and investigation remain in the hands of the Israeli authorities.

I wish to say that the atmosphere was very good and the President tried to create this. We were able to cover issues and express our opinions. There were differences and discussions but always with mutual respect and a desire to reach agreement.

News Conference in English

TA181238 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Report on English portion of Prime Minister Menahem Begin news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport--recorded]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin returned to Israel at midday today after 3 days of talks with President Carter on the autonomy negotiations. Our reporter, who was at Ben-Gurion Airport this morning says, however, that the focus of attention there was on Begin's reaction to developments in Israel during his absence. David Essing reports:

[Essing] There was a big turnout of Knesset members and Cabinet ministers for the prime minister, and Menahem Begin was all smiles, but all eyes were on his meeting with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, near the head of a reception line. The two shook hands warmly, with Begin pausing to speak animatedly, no doubt about his Washington trip. At an airport news conference, Begin said the biggest achievement had been a wonderful support by American Jews.

On those stepped-up autonomy negotiations, the first round will get underway in Herzliyya in 10 days. After 10 days of nonstop in Israel, the negotiators will move to Alexandria to try and reach the goal of an agreement by 26 May. The prime minister said that American press reports about a continuing committee were in error. The body would only be set up after the inauguration of the administrative council and not before.

But of key interest to reporters was the surprise news that opposition leader Shim'on Peres will see President Carter in Washington next week. Begin disclosed that Peres had not consulted with him on this, nor had Israel's ambassador to Washington played a role in arranging the meeting. In any case, the prime minister did not object.

[Begin] I had no objection. I only will express my hope that all those who will participate in those talks, will know that they speak with the leader of the opposition, with the leader of the opposition, and that there is a democratically elected government in Israel. I hope so it will be, so I have no objection for talks to be held by Mr Peres with President Carter and his secretary of state. I even want to express my hope that he will strengthen our opposition concerning Jerusalem. God bless him, if he will do so.

[Essing] But many Likud Knesset members are furious. They see the Carter-Peres get-together as interference in Israel's internal affairs. Did Begin agree with Ministers Hurvitz and Levi that Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman should go, after his TV interview that criticized the government and seemed in favor of early elections? The prime minister replied that he wants to read the full protocol first, adding: Maybe I won't make a statement at all. This could mean that Begin wishes to forgive and forget the Weizman furor. On last night's Israeli strike at a terrorist base on the Lebanese coast, the prime minister was adamant.

[Begin] You know what happened in Misgav 'Am. We have information that they prepare other attacks. What should we do? Wait until they come? Kill our children? And then what? Take revenge? We cannot take revenge for a child's blood. It's impossible. Our great national poet wrote: Revenge for a child's blood is for Satan himself to find a way to mete out. Human beings cannot revenge a child's life. We don't want revenge. We want our children to live.

[Essing] While in Washington, Begin had promised President Carter to try and persuade the national Olympic committee to boycott the Moscow games, but, he added, the decision is up to them.

BEGIN: U.S. SHOULD STATION FORCES IN ENDANGERED AREAS

TA211017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Menahem Begin has said that the United States is mistaken in not stationing military forces in the Middle East and in every area where there is danger of Soviet expansion.

Speaking in an interview with CBS, the prime minister clarified once again that if the United States asks to be granted services for its forces in Israel, it will receive a positive response. I myself will recommend this to the Cabinet, Menahem Begin promised.

He refused to elaborate on his talks with President Carter on the autonomy, but said that a concrete proposal regarding the security arrangements has been worked out. However, he did not want to disclose it before consultations between Carter and As-Sadat take place.

WASHINGTON TALKS CALLED 'INTERIM SUCCESS'

TA181210 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Apr 80 p 1

[By Erol Guiney, YEDI'OT AHARONOT commentator in Washington]

[Text] A long list of key issues is still awaiting its resolution in the forthcoming round of intensive autonomy talks, and there is no guarantee that it will indeed be resolved. Nevertheless, Menahem Begin's recent visit to the United States can be regarded as an "interim success" politically and as a success in the sphere of public relations.

Politically, the reasons are as follows:

A. The intensified round of talks will be conducted in the Middle East, not in Washington.

B. This time there apparently was a greater degree of understanding of Begin's refusal to accept deviations from the Camp David accords.

C. Nobody insisted on stopping the talks altogether, should no agreement be reached by May 26.

D. The continuing committee will be able to undertake new tasks once the autonomy regime is established. This might serve to facilitate progress in the approaching talks.

In the sphere of public relations, the visit was a success for the following reasons:

A. Israel's vehement desire to hold intensive talks was emphasized by all the news media.

B. None of the "customary" attacks on Israel, concerning its intransigence, so to speak, were heard this time. This, in spite of the fact that its "four-point paper" did not apparently testify to any shift in its stands on key issues.

This friendly atmosphere was largely due to the Carter Administration's strong desire to be able to indicate progress, on the eve of the important Pennsylvania primaries, and to show--as Carter has put it--that "the obstacles no longer look so terrible." Still, whatever the reasons, the prime minister's and Israel's image is improved.

As regards 'Ezer Weizman's challenge to Begin, the incident aroused considerable interest here in the United States. It should be noted, however, that in the United States such an incident has better chances of appearing "quite normal" than anywhere else in the world. After all, Carter himself is also facing a challenge from Kennedy, a member of his own party though not of his own administration.

INITIATIVE FOR PERES VISIT CAME FROM ISRAEL

TA181322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The initiative for the meeting between the U.S. President and Shim'on Peres came from Israel. Our correspondent Dan Eshel learned this from a U.S. Embassy source. According to the source, MK Peres' intention to make a private visit to the United States has been known for several weeks. The meeting with President Carter has been set for 24 April. Our correspondent was told by the U.S. Embassy that opposition leaders from other countries also meet with President Carter including, for example, Margaret Thatcher when she was formerly Britain's conservative opposition leader.

Peres Discusses Meeting

TA192007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by Jerusalem Television Correspondent on Party Affairs Nisim Mish'al on the eve of the former's departure for the United States time and place not given--Videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Mr Peres, why, actually did you not report to the prime minister on your scheduled meeting with President Carter?

[Answer] A diverse set of relations may be established between a prime minister and the head of the opposition. The law does not provide anything on this. The prime minister may decide to inform the head of the opposition on his moves, making room for reciprocity by the other side. There were instances when I reported to the prime minister on my meetings. There was even one case in which the prime minister asked me not to meet somebody...

[Question--interrupting] With King Husayn?

[Answer]...And I acceded to his request. Later on this had a very unpleasant result.

[Question] Hence, this time you decided not to take any chances?

[Answer] I do not have anything to risk. I usually tell the prime minister about exceptional things. However, I do not expect anything extraordinary to come from this meeting.

[Question] Mr Peres, would you be so kind as to solve the mystery of who initiated the meeting with President Carter?

[Answer] With President Carter? The answer is very simple: When Mr Vance visited Israel for the first time he asked that, whenever I go to the United States--I am frequently invited to the United States by the Jewish community; unfortunately, often I cannot accept these invitations--I inform Washington about it. There has hardly been an instance in which I visited Washington and I have not had a day of meetings with administration officials. Usually meetings are arranged for me with the vice president, the secretary of state, Mr Brzezinski, congressional leaders and so on. This time I was told that the President wanted to meet me. I did not see any reason to refuse him. I was about to leave for the United States---and perhaps go to Egypt, too--at the beginning of this month. However, when I learned that Messrs Begin and as-Sadat had been invited to Washington I immediately decided to postpone my trip so as not to create a situation whereby my arrival there would seem to be some sort of interference in the negotiations...

[Question--interrupting] What was the role played by the ambassador...

[Answer--interrupting] Therefore, I postponed the meeting until after the meetings between President Carter and President as-Sadat and the prime minister. In fact, the date for the meeting was announced to me last Thursday, by the U.S. Embassy and by the Israeli Embassy.

[Question] By Ambassador 'Evron?

[Answer] I, personally, was not informed about it. I was simply out of the office at the time. I do not know who called from the [Israeli] Embassy however, Neither the U.S. nor the Israeli Embassies dealt with this issue.

[Question] Mr Peres, what was the role played by Ambassador 'Evron in arranging this meeting? I understand that he played a big role.

[Answer] He reported--apparently it was him [calling from] the embassy; as I mentioned, I was out of the office--about the date of the meeting.

[Question] Did 'Evron initiate the meeting?

[Answer] To the best of my knowledge, the President himself initiated the meeting.

CARTER CONSIDERING SIGNING DEFENSE PACT WITH ISRAEL

TA281835 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1825 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] President Carter is considering a proposal to establish a defense pact between the United States and Israel. This was learned today by our correspondents Elimelekh Ram and Yoram Ronen. It seems that the U.S. President raised the idea during the talks he conducted with the prime minister in Washington. The prime minister told his confidants that, in his opinion, President Carter will officially propose signing such a pact in the near future. In his talks with President Carter Mr Begin did not object to the idea. However, he said that it would be appropriate that an initiative for the signing of a U.S.-Israeli pact in the military sphere stem from the United States. Then, Israel will be able to and will willingly consent to it.

Our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari reports from Cairo that the United States and Egypt are presently holding contacts to widen their military cooperation for the defense of the Persian Gulf countries. Among other things, it was proposed to expand the Egyptian military bases serving air-borne U.S. units which would be put into operation in the event the United States decided to interfere in the Persian Gulf. The United States is also considering stationing armored units which would be ready to operate in the oil countries and which would set out from Egyptian bases.

Pentagon Examining Joint Maneuvers

TA191956 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The Pentagon has been examining the possibility of conducting joint IDF-U.S. Army maneuvers. This has been learned by our Washington Correspondent Dan Raaiv. Our correspondent reports that this possibility was raised at the meetings between Prime Minister Begin and President Carter. However, no decision has yet been reached. The U.S. administration has requested the U.S. Defense Department to examine the possibility of joint maeuvers and their nature. The answers to these questions are supposed to be submitted to Israel.

U.S. TO ASSIST ISRAEL IN PRODUCTION OF 'LAVI' PLANE

TA200855 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Apr 80 p 1

[By Political Correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpts] President Carter has acceded to Israel's request submitted during his second meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin and has announced his administration's agreement to provide Israel with the engine and the technical assistance required for the production of the "Lavi" aircraft. Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will leave for the United States on Tuesday and will probably discuss the details of the issue.

Last night political elements noted that the prime minister's trip was very successful as far as he was concerned since he did not make any concessions and even returned to Israel carrying several achievements on various issues. Nevertheless, the political elements noted, no progress had actually been made on the disputed points regarding the autonomy.

The achievements noted were:

--The United States has stopped proposing that Israel agree to grant the inhabitants of East Jerusalem the right to vote. It did not agree with Israel's position but accepted it as a fact.

--The United States proposed--and retracted its proposal in view of Begin's objection--that the autonomy's administrative council be appointed instead of elected. Thus it hoped to avoid a dispute regarding East Jerusalem. The prime minister opposed this proposal noting that elections were a democratic process and that the Camp David accords should be fulfilled.

--The agreement between Presidents Carter and As-Sadat to hold accelerated talks on the autonomy in Washington was rejected. According to Begin's suggestion, it was directed to conduct the talks only in this area--in Egypt and Israel alternately.

Regarding the four-clause document Israel submitted to the United States, it has been learned that it is merely a paper stating positions which the United States will also transfer to Egypt. Israel does not expect an Egyptian reaction to the paper. However, Egypt will be able to comment on it if it wishes to do so.

The four points stated in the document are:

1. Israel is opposed to the establishment of a legislative council.

2. The autonomy's external security will be under Israel's full control.

3. The Israelis living within the boundaries of the autonomy will only be subject to Israel's rule.

4. The number of members forming the administrative council will be determined according to the number of functions it will perform.

BEGIN OFFERED SERVICES TO CARTER TO DEFEND OIL SOURCES

TA201004 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 20 Apr 80 p 1

[By Washington correspondent Ron Ben-Yishay and Jerusalem correspondent Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin offered President Carter Israel's good services in curbing Soviet expansion in the region and in protecting the West's oil sources.

Begin offered to Carter all those things which the United States is asking of Egypt, such as landing rights, use of the ports, maintenance installations and hospitals. Their use would not involve a permanent U.S. presence, but would only be used when necessary.

According to Begin's proposal, there will be some sort of agreement. Israel will grant the United States the above-mentioned rights within the framework of this agreement. On its part, the United States will undertake to provide funds and know-how for Israel's security. In other words, the proposal seeks to turn Israeli-U.S. military relations into bilateral instead of unilateral ones.

President Carter's reaction was noncommittal, and he "promised to examine the issue." Begin asked that the examination begin during 'Ezer Weizman's upcoming visit to the United States.

A senior U.S. administration official yesterday said the United States did not plan to offer a defense pact with Israel. He vehemently denied a report broadcast by Israeli television that President Carter had suggested a defense pact to Prime Minister Begin in order to encourage Begin to make concessions on the West Bank and Gaza. The official said the report was "unfounded and irresponsible."

Washington's denial notwithstanding, Jerusalem sources said that at the Carter-Begin talks both sides put forward ideas regarding the signing of a defense pact, use of airports and seaports by the United States when necessary, use of Israeli bases by a U.S. task force and the holding of joint maneuvers.

It should be noted that the prime minister returned to Israel encouraged by the understanding the U.S. President showed regarding several Israeli demands on military procurement.

MILITARY SOURCES GIVE DETAILS OF SOUTH LEBANON OPERATION

Chief of Staff Comments

TA181713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan said that there has been no pause in the IDF's activities against the terrorists lately. He explained that the importance of last night's operation south of Sidon lies in preventing the terrorists from organizing attacks within our country's borders. He pointed out that the operation was complicated and was carried out on short notice. The operation was carried out with a high level of dexterity and had good results. The chief of staff was speaking to our military correspondent Roni Daniyel.

Clear Evidence of Terrorist Activity

TA181825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Israeli military sources have said that there were clear military activities by armed men and movements of military vehicles in the area where the IDF operated last night. Therefore, the claim that there were children on the site was completely without foundation.

Further Details on Operation

TA181935 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1825 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpts] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan said this evening that one of the most effective ways to prevent terrorist attacks on our northern settlements was to attack them in their own bases in Lebanon. Referring to the IDF's operation last night, Lieutenant General Eytan said that the terrorists were attacked at 0230 in two buildings within their base.

Our correspondent Dan Semama spoke with Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan this afternoon. [begin videotape]

[Question] Lieutenant General Eytan, what were the targets of the operation and have they been achieved?

[Answer] The targets of the operation at that site--or rather, the target--was to attack the terrorists in their base. The base consists of two buildings. The targets were fully achieved. In my opinion, almost all the terrorist--or perhaps all of them--in the base were killed and the buildings were destroyed.

[Question] What were the characteristics of the IDF's operation in southern Lebanon last night?

[Answer] The operation was characterized by three things: a very short battle, that is, preparations were conducted on very short notice, a complicated rout and surprise. These three elements were fully achieved. The result lies in the very fact of the surprise. The last element was the surprise which came as a result of the planning, the method of the battle which was quite complex--and the arrival. Absolute surprise was achieved. Thanks to the surprise the operation could be carried out and the targets were fully achieved. I reiterate, they were fully achieved. There is no doubt that no one and nothing was left of that base.

[Question] When you say surprise do you mean to say that the terrorists were not prepared, did not defend themselves and did not fight back?

[Answer] They did not have time to fight. They were prepared; they had people on watch and carrying weapons. However, they simply did not have time to react because of the surprise, the speed of the operation and the high level of performance.

[Question] In the wake of the operation and from reports by our forces does it emerge that terrorists indeed intended to set out from there toward the Israeli border?

[Answer] It is hard to tell. There was no one to speak to.

[Question] Was last night's operation a reaction to the incident at Misgav 'Am?

[Answer] No, it did not come as a reaction. This is one method of fighting against the terrorists.

[Question] How do you then explain that after 10 months when there was no fighting of this sort against the terrorists, suddenly last night we adopted the aggressive system on the terrorist bases?

[Answer] It is not true that there was no activity against the terrorists in the last 10 months. There was a different sort of activity which was not made public in other places.

[Question] Was it an aggressive activity against the terrorists in their own bases within their own territory?

[Answer] There were activities against the terrorists within the Lebanese boundaries during this entire period. I will not go into detail but there were activities. [end videotape]

HERUT DISSOCIATES ITSELF FROM WEIZMAN REMARKS

TA171247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The leadership of the Herut faction has announced that it regards the remarks by the defense minister about early elections with great gravity and it dissociates itself from them. The only framework for criticism of the government, the leadership of the Herut faction says, is in the movement's institutions, not on a television program and certainly not while the prime minister is on a national mission in the United States.

The Herut leadership has decided to convene the full faction immediately after independence day to discuss the defense minister's remarks. The leadership expressed unequivocal support for the prime minister and announced that it stands behind him.

ETHIOPIA

ELF AIDE STATES TERMS FOR TALKS WITH ETHIOPIAN REGIME

LD210645 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Apr 80 p 3

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT report: "Eritrean Liberation Front Rejects Current Negotiations With Ethiopia"]

[Text] Rabat--Eritrean Liberation Front (People's Liberation Forces) representative in Morocco Muhammad 'Ali Qadi has commented to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT on the Revolution Council's decision to negotiate with Ethiopia, accept the principle of self-rule and declare the establishment of the so-called Eritrean Communist Party. He said: In connection with self-rule, the Eritrean people opted for armed struggle as a means to achieve complete independence because they had previously experienced federal union with Ethiopia wherein the former Ethiopian regime abolished the union and disregarded the Eritrean people's demands. The same procedure has been pursued by the present military regime. Therefore, the attitude of the People's Liberation Forces is that negotiations should take place between all the Eritrean revolution's groups and the Ethiopian regime on the basis of independence, taking into consideration Ethiopia's geographic position as an outlet to the Red Sea. The Eritrean revolution and the Ethiopian regime should also agree on a formula for coexistence between the Eritrean and the Ethiopian peoples in order to establish stability and cooperation in the area.

As for the establishment of a specific ideological organization in the Eritrean arena at present, that will not serve the Eritrean people's struggle which has been based on a unified front embracing all the ideological tendencies and currents and having the common aim of attaining the Eritrean people's right to self-determination, freedom and independence.

SOMALI

OFFICIALS RETURN FROM GULF FUND-RAISING TOUR

LD202052 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 20 Apr 80 EA

[Text] The presidential adviser on security affairs, Challe Ahmad Sulayman Abdullah, has just returned from a tour of Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE, accompanied by the minister of national planning, Challe Ahmad Habib Ahmad. The purpose of the tour was to raise funds for the Bardera dam project.

The presidential adviser on security affairs told a SONNA reporter this morning that the Bardera dam project would cost $500 million and for that reason it was necessary to cooperate with our rich brother Arab governments that had promised to raise the greater part of the cost of the project in order to improve the Somali economy. He said: When the Bardera dam is completed, it will be one of the country's major projects, benefiting the Somali people in particular and the Arab people in general. The presidential adviser added that the Somali Democratic Republic had held earlier talks on this project with the leaders of Saudi Arabia and EC governments. The presidential adviser went on to say that during his tour he had delivered messages from the president of Somalia, Challe Muhammad Siad Barre, to the leaders of the countries he had visited.

The Bardera dam project, which is just over 10 km from Bardera, will be capable of irrigating 220,000 hectares of land and of producing 90,000 kw of power. It obviously will create employment opportunities for the Somali masses.

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM ZIMBABWE

LD201946 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 20 Apr 80 EA

[Excerpt] The second vice president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Hussein Kulmiye Afrah, and his delegation returned home this afternoon after attending the Zimbabwe independence celebrations. Speaking to reporters from the Ministry of Information, Challe Hussein Kulmiye Afrah said many leaders from different parts of the world were in Zimbabwe in honor of the occasion and the Somali delegation held talks on bilateral relations with them. Challe Hussein Kulmiye Afrah also said that he held talks with the president, the prime minister and other leaders of the new Zimbabwe Government on matters of mutual interest. Challe Kulmiye and his delegation held talks with the leaders of Zambia and Kenya on current world and African affairs during stopovers.

TANZANIA

SWAPO PRESIDENT ARRIVES FROM SALISBURY

LD202020 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 20 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The president of Namibian liberation organization, SWAPO, Ndugu Sam Nujoma, has said the organization is now expanding military operations to the central and southern regions in Namibia. Ndugu Nujoma said the new war fronts would be in addition to the front in the northwest, northeastern and north central Namibia, which is already under the military command of SWAPO since it launched the armed struggles in 1966.

The SWAPO president, who arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday from Salisbury, where he attended Zimbabwe independence celebrations, was speaking at a ceremony to mark the organization's 20th anniversary. He said Namibia would be liberated very soon. However, he warned that the struggle for Namibia's independence has reached a very critical stage, because of the tricks employed by South Africa and Western countries.

Ndugu Nujoma said the racists and their allies were determined to delay the independence of Namibia because of their economic interests in the territory. He also disclosed that because of the intensified struggle, settlers in Namibia were fleeing due to lack of protection from the demoralized South African army. Ndugu Nujoma then paid great tribute to Tanzania for her continued support of the liberation struggle in southern Africa.

Meets President Nyerere

LD202032 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1800 GMT 20 Apr 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The chairman of the frontline states, Mwalimu Nyerere, has held talks with the president of SWAPO, Nudugu Nujoma, at Mwalimu's home as Msasani in Dar es Salaam. A statement released by the State House said the talks lasted for half an hour and that they were attended by the newly appointed chief representative of SWAPO in East Africa, Ndugu (Simbo Nandi). The statement said the talks were centered on the liberation of Namibia. The SWAPO leader briefed Mwalimu Nyerere on the latest developments of the liberation struggle in Namibia.

CHAD

FIGHTING CONTINUES THROUGHOUT NDJAMENA

AB181120 Paris AFP in French 0847 GMT 18 Apr 80

[By AFP special correspondent Patrick Van Roekeghem--delayed in transmission]

[Text] Ndjamena, 17 Apr (AFP)--The big offensive launched on Wednesday evening by Mr Hissein Habre's forces against positions defended by the people's armed forces of President Goukouni Ouaddei resumed with intensity on the north front on Thursday afternoon.

During the entire afternoon, like the day before, explosions of gunfire were heard while street battles, ascribed to urban guerrillas, were reported to have taken place at many points of the capital.

On the other hand, reports from Kousseri, a northern Cameroon town facing Ndjamena across the Chari River, say that Kamougue's Chadian Armed Forces which are still stationed in the south sector of Ndjamena, continue to pound positions defended by the northern armed forces of Mr Hissein Habre.

On Thursday evening, heavy artillery fire set the town ablaze and wreaths of smoke were hanging over the capital. On the other hand, the violence of fighting caused a momentary break in power in the areas bordering the Chari River and in the administrative quarter, not far from the presidency.

Intensity Diminishes

AB181850 Paris AFP in French 1421 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 18 Apr (AFP)--After renewed violence on Thursday morning on the entire northern front of Ndjamena, fighting in the Chadian capital between President Goukouni Ouaddeimi's people's armed forces and Defense Minister Hissein Habre's northern armed forces, practically ceased early Friday morning.

Observers, therefore, think that the two offensives which were launched against Mr Goukouni Oueddei's armed forces, do not seem to have significantly modified the position of the two factions, which continue to split the capital in two.

Also on the southern front, it is learned from the small Cameroonian town of Kousseri on the other side of the Chari River, which is opposite the African districts of Ndjamena occupied by Mr Hissein Habre, that the situation seemed calm on Friday morning while the Chadian Armed Forces of southern Vice President Kamougue continued to occupy the capital's southern exit.

So, after nearly a month since the battle of Ndjamena began, it seems to be turning into static warfare involving the use of heavy arillery and sudden waves of violence comparable to guerrilla tactics, followed by periods of calm; but neither faction seems to have gained ground up until now.

According to observers in the Chadian capital, Goukouni and Habre's fighters are engaged in a guerrilla war similar to the ones they fought for years on end in the mountainous and desert areas in the north and east of the country, at the time they were fighting against the southern Ndjamena government.

The FAN [Northern Armed Forces] and FAP [People's Armed Forces] fighters show proof of equal endurance, observers note. Needing only a handful of dates and a few gulps of water daily for their subsistence, they are particularly stubborn fighters and for them, time hardly counts.

Observers think that their guerrilla tactics, transplanted into a completely paralyzed capital are likely to have some absolutely catastrophic consequences for the future of the country if hostilities continue much longer.

Curiously, however, the number of wounded persons seems to have rapidly diminished in the two camps, judging from the low admissions made these last few days in the French military base hospital in Ndjamena and in the rapid military medical intervention unit (Emmir) stationed in Kousseri.

'War of Attrition'

AB201005 Paris AFP in English 0916 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, April 19 (AFP)--As the Chadian capital entered its fifth week of fighting between supporters of President Goukouni Ouaddeimi and Defense Minister Hissein Habre, a war of attrition seemed to have set in, with each side trying to wear down its opponents metre by metre (yard by yard).

Today the fiercest clashes between Mr Goukouni's popular armed forces (FAP) and Mr Habre's armed forces of the north (FAN) were in the northern part of the city, beyond the airport, and around the FAP-held police headquarters near the centre, which has been a FAN target for several days.

Meanwhile, troops under vice president and southern leader Abdelkader Wadal Kamougue, who backs Mr Goukouni, took little part in the fighting. Their recent efforts have met with scant success against the FAN, and they were still several kilometres (miles) the wrong side of the FAN-held Chagoua bridge.

One reliable witness said today that since the beginning of the fighting Mr Kamougue had tried and failed four times to take Mr Habre's troops from the rear.

Medical Problems

AB181035 Paris AFP in English 0959 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Geneva, 18 Apr (AFP)--Red Cross doctors are having to amputate immediately the legs of war-wounded in the Chadian capital if the casualties have multiple fractures with skin breaks, a delegate of the international organisation said here on his return from the embattled capital.

With some 2,000 wounded in the civil war there--now in its fourth week--Red Cross delegate Laurent Marti yesterday described the situation in Ndjamena as one of the hardest spectacles the International Red Cross had ever seen in conflicts.

Among those wounded that doctors had been able to save, he said, were an immense number who would be invalids for life. And when the fighting ends, the city will have a big proportion of amputees to cope with.

He added that because of the number of wounded and the difficult conditions, a wounded victim needing a four-hour operation was condemned to death, to save four others whose operations would each only take one hour.

The delegate denied reports that bodies had been thrown in the River Chari, adding that the river water was drinkable and a matter of life to the people on its banks.

Only about 40,000 civilians out of the city's population of 110,000 to 120,000 remained in Ndjamena, which was one reason the food situation there was not more alarming.

STEADFASTNESS FRONT STATES TO SUPPORT GOUKOUNI

AB181355 Paris AFP in French 1123 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 18 Apr (AFP)--No official reaction was reported on Thursday in Ndjamena from Mr Goukouni Oueddeimi's People's Armed Forces as well as from Mr Hissein Habre's Armed Forces of the North, in the wake of the decision made on Tuesday by the hardline states--Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and PLO--to support the president of the national unity transition government of Chad, Mr Goukouni, in the conflict between him and his minister of defense.

While noting that the hardline states have chosen the side of legality in its decision to support a president appointed in Lagos (Nigeria) on 21 August 1979 by all Chadian 11 political and military factions, observers in Ndjamena, however, are wondering what will be the nature of this support. Meanwhile, they point out that the decision of the hardline states may indirectly bear out the contention of Hissein Habre's partisans that Libya is undoubtedly massively supplying all types of arms to President Goukouni and Vice President Kamougue.

It is recalled in Ndjamena that the minister of defense, Hissein Habre, recently during a press conference, protested against the antinational pro-Libyan coalition formed around President Goukouni.

According to observers in Ndjamena, the last decision of the hardline states--including Libya, a neighboring country of Chad, which has occupied the Aouzou strip in the northern far end of the country for several years--might thus embarrass rather than serve Mr Goukouni Oueddeimi and the forces fighting on his side, in particular the Chadian Armed Forces of Vice President Kamougue of the south.

Already, in a recent press conference held a few days ago in Ndjamena, President Goukouni had violently criticized those who feverishly endeavor to internationalize the conflict, by believing that Libyan troops are advancing toward Ndjamena.

On his part, Vice President Kamougue on Thursday morning on Radio Moundou (the country's radio) monitored in Ndjamena discussed the allegation that the Chadian Armed Forces under his command are pro-Libyan.

VICE PRESIDENT ON STATUS OF FIGHTING, CHADIAN FEDERATION

AB181750 Paris AFP in French 1134 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 18 Apr (AFP)--The Chadian vice-president, Col Abdelkader Wadal Kamougue, commander of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT), did not rule out a federal solution to the Chadian problem in his statement broadcast on Thursday by Radio Moundou monitored in Ndjamena.

Questioned by journalists on the idea of a federation suggested a few months ago by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Colonel Kamougue stated on Chad's southern radio that no one was entitled to impose on Chadian people the form of government which they believe suits its interests most. Any such proposal, according to the vice president, must be approved by popular vote. The French suggestion, Colonel Kamougue proceeded, is not new; I do not remember rejecting it. The current developments tend to show that the present form of government cannot solve the Chadian tragedy. Every leader must have the courage and honesty to try other forms, including that of federation.

Meanwhile, asked about the status of the fighting in Chad, Colonel Kamougue stated that it was too early to make a definitive judgment on the situation, as the unified forces have not made Hissein Habe's faction see reason. Colonel Kamougue noted that all the factions have united against the leader of the armed forces of the north, whom he discribes as the gangrene in the process of peace in Chad. It is unthinkable that an individual can put into question the existance of a whole country, the Chadian vice president stated again.

Talking about his meeting on Wednesday with Mr Marcel Beaux, the French ambassador to Chad, at Moundou in the southern region, Colonel Kamougue pointed out that it was normal for him as the second authority of the Chadian state to hold such meetings, and he explained that the situation did not allow him to hold them in the capital itself any longer.

In conclusion, Vice President Kamougue denied that his faction--the Chadian Armed Forces--was pro-Libyan. Indeed, he said in essence, we have had contacts with Libya; but many other factions once had closer relations with that country.

NIGERIAN ENVOYS ARRIVE IN NDJAMENA WITH MESSAGES

AB191015 Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 19 April 80

[Text] Ndjamena, April 19 (AFP)--Two Nigerian envoys have arrived here from Lagos bringing messages for Chadian President Goukouni Queddeimi and Defence Minister Hissein Habre, whose forces have been fighting here since March 22. Presidential political adviser Baba Ingibe and foreign affairs adviser Adefemiwa arrived yesterday. The messages were from former Liberian President William Tolbert--who was current OAU chairman when he was killed in a coup d'etat last weekend--President Gnassingbe Eyadeam of Togo and Nigerian President Shehu Shagari.

The two envoys, who were met at the airport by the director of Mr. Goukouni's cabinet, Adoum Yakoub, passed one message on to the president. They were due today to enter the part of the capital controlled by Mr. Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) to give the defence minister the other message.

Reliable sources here said the messages related to efforts by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to end the bloody war in Chad. The Togolese president, who was in Ndjamena recently, initiated the most recent ceasefire agreement, which has not yet been implemented.

Nigeria helped sponsor last August's reconciliation agreement signed in Lagos by 11 of Chad's various factions.

Cape Verde Islands

PORTUGUESE, CAPE VERDE PRESIDENTS HOLD TALKS

LD201504 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Today is the last day of President Ramalho Eanes's official visit to the Republic of Cape Verde. The president of the republic is expected back in Lisbon late this afternoon. Before his return, President Eanes and President Aristides Pereira will be holding another round of talks during which the views expressed by the two statesmen with regard to bilateral relations and foreign policy will be reviewed.

In the cooperation sphere, this visit has enhanced the spirit of fraternity marking the relations between the two nations. In the sphere of international relations, it is significant that Cape Verde has emphasized its commitment to nonalignment. President Aristides Pereira gave assurances that his country will never allow foreign military bases on its territory and that Cape Verde will never be part of nor will it be the staging point for any aggressive operations directed against sovereign states or peoples.

Fernando de Sousa reports on the highlights of a news conference held today in the capital city of Praia: Opening the news conference, President Eanes stressed the importance of his talks with President Aristides Pereira and referred to a few issues concerning bilateral cooperation which have been agreed upon, including the repair and extension of the Sao Vicente shipyards and the construction of a fishing complex for the archipelago. International issues were also reviewed during the talks and a convergence of views was noted by both sides on a large number of issues.

Several references were made during the news conference to Tarrafal [Cape Verdean village famous for a prison used by the colonial authorities], where a museum in honor of the resistance by the Portuguese-speaking countries to colonialism and fascism will be built. It will be, as General Ramalho Eanes said, a monument in honor of the victims of violence.

With regard to relations with Portuguese-speaking African countries, Ramalho Eanes emphasized that it is in Portugal's interests to respect the identity of each of these nations and that there is no intention whatsoever to create or institutionalize a Portuguese community similar to the British Commonwealth. This was stated in reply to a question of a British journalist, who asked if Portugal planned to create a Portuguese commonwealth with its former colonies.

With regard to international relations, President Ramalho Eanes said that there should be some kind of agreement between the industrialized and the underdeveloped countries, particularly those which export raw materials, in order to improve relations and avoid tense situations.

With regard to Portugal's domestic situation, Ramalho Eanes stressed that Portuguese democracy will continue to consolidate itself, and that in the next few years it will reach the age of majority in line with the Western democracies. [words indistinct]

The last question put to President Eanes at the news conference concerned the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Ramalho Eanes said that relations between Portugal and Angola are conducted at state level and that there is no room for UNITA in these relations. He also said that once the Namibian issue has been settled, UNITA will to a large extent, if not totally, lose its importance.

Departs for Lisbon

LD201508 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] The president of the republic, Gen Ramalho Eanes, left Gago Countinho airport in the city of Praia at 1132 GMT on his way back to Lisbon after a 5-day official visit to the Republic of Cape Verde. At a news conference before his departure, Ramalho Eanes advocated a policy of good relations between Europe and Africa.

GHANA

LIMANN AFFIRMS GHANA'S SUPPORT TO PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE

AB181857 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Ghana has assured the people of Zimbabwe of its resolute support in the challenging task of consolidating their hard-won independence and the building of a society based on justice and equality. The assurance was in a congratulatory message President Limann sent to the prime minister, Mr Mugabe, whose country achieved independence today. The head of state said Zimbabwe's independence has its roots in the independence movement started by such pioneers as the late President Nkrumah and other African nationalists.

Dr Limann said, just as the government and people of Ghana shared Zimbabwe's tribulations during its long heroic struggle, so are they today proud to share with the people of Zimbabwe the joys of independence. He hoped Zimbabwe's independence would serve as a great inspiration for the final assault on the last bastion of racism and colonial oppression in the rest of southern Africa.

President Limann, added that Ghana looked forward to Zimbabwe joining the forces of progress in the crusade to free Africa from the remaining vestiges of bondage and servitude.

Ivory Coast

VIOLENCE FLARES BETWEEN IVORIANS, MAURITANIAN NATIONALS

AB181730 Paris AFP in French 1611 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Abidjan, 18 Apr (AFP)--It was learned from diplomatic sources on Friday that several thousand Mauritanian nationals have sought protection from the Ivorian police, following clashes between Ivorians and Mauritanian nationals which broke out at the beginning of the week in certain suburbs of Abidjan. They have been in the state police force camps near the Ivorian capital for 48 hours.

It adds that Ivorian authorities have accepted to lodge these foreigners for security reasons. The same source indicated on Friday that more than 30 Mauritanians have been wounded these last few days during the clashes and that one Ivorian was killed in Kumasi, a few kilometers from the center of the capital, by a Mauritanian storekeeper; but it adds that no Mauritanian has been killed, following this incident which arose from a fight between a Mauritanian trader and an Ivorian whose daughter had been beaten. Several hundred Mauritanian traders have fled their shops and the majority of them have sought refuge in their embassy. They have settled in the gardens and corridors; but they will be sent to the state police force camps until the problem has been solved, said a diplomat from the embassy.

In addition, a top official from the presidency of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania is expected in Abidjan, on Friday afternoon with a message from President Khouna Ould Haydala to his Ivorian counterpart, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, it is learned from diplomatic sources. We are surprised by these incidents which have no objective basis in view of the friendship between the Ivory Coast and Mauritania, a counselor from the Mauritanian Embassy declared.

The Mauritanian community in the Ivory Coast numbers approximately 30 thousand.

LIBERIA

FORMER OFFICIALS APPEAR BEFORE MILITARY TRIBUNAL

Dennis Pleads Innocent

AB181843 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1700 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Mr C. Cecil Dennis, former minister of foreign affairs, yesterday pleaded not guilty to high treason, bribery and corruption and misuse of public offices to the 5-man military tribunal currently trying officials of the ousted Tolbert government. Mr Dennis admitted that the Tolbert regime did not permit the full participation of the masses of the people in the decision-making process. Questioned whether he felt that the deposed government flagrantly violated the constitutional rights of the Liberian people, Mr Dennis answered in the affirmative and said he was unaware that the ousted government contravened the statutes of the state. On his assets and bank accounts, Mr Dennis disclosed that his local accounts had gone up to 21,500 dollars, while his foreign accounts with the Chemical Bank in New York was 500 dollars.

Other Officials Appear

AB182230 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpt] More confessions were made today as the trial of former officials of the late Tolbert government enters its third day. Our correspondent was at the Barclay Training Center and he sent us this report. [begin recording]

The trail entered its third day today with Mr Clarence Parker, the general treasurer of the True Whig Party and former Finance Minister James T. Philips appearing before the special military tribunal. Mr Parker said the coup which took place on 12 April has brought relief to 95 percent of the Liberian people. Mr Parker said Liberians were being ruled by a bunch of (?insane) people; just look at the history of insanity in the Tolbert family, he said. He added, and I quote: Mr Tolbert was insane because Frank Tolbert is stone crazy. Two of the Tolbert sisters are insane and A.B. Tolbert is crazy. Just how could you reason with an insane man, Mr Parker said. It was, therefore, necessary he added, for the recent coup to rid Liberia of what he called Tolbertism. Mr Parker supported the letter he wrote to the late president informing him that the late Finance Minister Steven Tolbert, his brother, was (?driving the people to a low level) through his (?Mentserrado district) company, from the small people selling fish in the market to the poor people selling gasoline in their [word indistinct]. The letter, Mr Parker said, was never heeded by the president.

Mr Parker, who was general treasurer of the True Whig Party, disclosed that the party had shares in the Liberian Oil Company of (Lam) River, Liberia Timber and Plywood Corporation--formerly known as VANPLY--and LIPALMCO, a palm oil producing company owned by Mr Parker. Mr Parker is the founder of the Parker (?paint) company. He said he borrowed $336,000 from the Bank of Monrovia, now the City Bank, in 1963 to set up the (?paint) company. He said he used $50,000 out of the money he borrowed to build the Parker building, which now houses an annex of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs on Broad Street.

Mr James Philips, Junior, the former minister of finance, who also appeared before the tribunal today, said he was convinced that the democratic process in Liberia could not work, both from the political and economic points of view. When asked as to whether the [word indistinct] form of government had in fact necessitated the recent coup, he said and I quote: Yes, the past administration failed the Liberian people. Mr Philips said he predicted that the coup would happen because the country's development policies were wrong. Mr Philips, who had served as minister of agriculture and finance, said he remained in government service for about 21 years. He said he has a current bank account of about $2,500 in the Chase Manhattan Bank and the National Housing and Saving Bank, both of Monrovia. He also claims to have a foreign account of about 10,000 dollars at the First National City Bank of New York. Mr Philips said he has 12 houses in Liberia and 9 of them were built by himself. He claimed to have inherited 3 from his parents. He also claimed to have one farm in Kwe, Nimba County, and 20 acres of undeveloped land in [word indistinct]. Mr Philips also disclosed that he received a gross annual income of about $160,000. [end recording]

Former Legislator

AB210935 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0800 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Former member of the House of Representatives, (Charles Cane) of Nimba County, has described his fellow former legislators as a bunch of monekys. Mr (Cane) was appearing before the special military tribunal which is trying officials of the former Tolbert government on charges of high treason, rampant corruption and misuse of public office.

Mr (Cane) said he had opposed the decision of the Liberian legislature to ban the Progressive People's Party. He further disclosed that his colleagues had requested him to file an apology for his stand on the banning issue, but according to him, be bluntly refused and left the House of Representatives until the recent coup.

The former Nimba County representative said he had four houses and 16 lots in Nimba. He also claimed to have 15 lots in Monrovia and two large tracts of farmland in (Gunsa). Mr (Cane) said he has no savings account in or out of Liberia.

The special military tribunal began hearings on official of the former government on Wednesday and has tried over four former cabinet ministers, three members of the legislature and the former chief justice, among others. The chairman of the tribunal, Lt Col Frank Senkpeni, disclosed that the tribunal would soon he handing down decisions on those already tried.

OFFICIAL PAPER CALLS FOR CLEMENCY FOR FORMER OFFICIALS

AB182005 Paris AFP in French 1518 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Monrovia, 17 Apr (AFP)--An appeal for moderation toward former ministers and officials of Tolbert's government being currently judged by a military tribunal was made by the NEW LIBERIAN, the official paper of the Liberian Ministry of Information, in an editorial published on Thursday.

Though Liberians take pleasure in mocking those who are accused of crimes against the people and in booing them, the editorialist writes, they prefer that every means be used so that all they have stolen is returned to the people and that they be punished by forfeiting their property rather than being killed, even though we are now under military rule.

The editorialist notes that executing the collaborators of late President William Tolbert would bring sorrow to many hearts as Liberia is a small community united by family ties, by the system of extended families and by adoption.

In spite of this call for clemency, three soldiers and a civilian were executed on Thursday afternoon for looting or molesting people. The execution took place on a beach in the presence of the head of state and the minister of defense. It was shown on national television on Thursday evening.

The NEW LIBERIAN also writes on the issue of handing over power to civilians and notes that Liberians are concerned about this problem although they rejoice over the coup d'etat. According to the editorialist, the people must show patience, for, he points out, it is too early to hand back power to a constitutionally elected government. There is a lot of work left to be done, a lot of money is yet to be recovered from corrupt officials. The government must be firmly in contol of things and this cannot be done in a day. At least 3 years will be necessary to right the ship of state.

Although life in Monrovia has practically returned to normal, the government still seems unable to fully control soldiers in the street, in spite of its efforts. Rumors of all kinds are circulating in diplomatic circles about looting and extortion reportedly committed by enlisted men or prowlers wearing stolen military uniforms during curfew hours.

However, the new government seems determined to handle this problem firmly. It is in this light that its decision to order executions on Thursday--serving as example, with maximum publicity is interpreted.

The new authorities also seem determined to ignore the appeals for clemency wherever they originate and to show much strictness in the trial df former officials which began on Wednesday.

On Wednesday, leaflets were being sold in Monrovia for 25 cents giving the amount of the bank accounts of President Tolbert; of his brother Frank Tolbert, president pro tem of the senate; of the speaker of the house of representatives, Richard Henries; and of a former minister of finance (until July 1979), James T. Philips.

However, the minister of state in charge of presidential affairs has reacted to this, pointing out that there was no evidence available to bear out the accuracy of the figures mentioned ($5 billion for President Tolbert). He noted that the People's Redemption Council did not intend to encourage a false presentation of the facts, which, he believes, is not the aim of the revolution.

DOE VISITS ARMY OFFICERS IMPRISONED DURING COUP

AB201312 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council, Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe, yesterday visited the prison compound near (Sov) beach and other places in the Monrovia area including (Jallow Town), (Sinko Allroad), the OAU or Unity Conference Center in Virginia and the free port of Monrovia.

At the prison compound near (Sov) beach, the head of state assured army officers arrested during the takeover that some of them would soon be freed. He told the prison authorities to permit the officers to receive fresh air within the prison yard. He also said that officers who are ill should be allowed to visit hospital.

Meanwhile, Maj T.K. Davis, Lieutenant (Collie) and Warrant Officer (Moses Muvi) were released yesterday morning.

At the Unity Conference Center, Master Sergent Doe appointed Mr Samuel Peters and Robert (Kuya) as director and deputy director of the security unit at the OAU village.

REBEL LEADER REPORTED STILL AT LARGE

AB182130 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Maj (William Jarbo) is wanted by the People's Redemption Council for leading rebel soldiers in an ambush against military installations in Balata, Bong County, early this week. The artillery commander of the People's Redemption Council, (Isaac Golwa), was killed in the attack. According to the commanding general of the Armed Forces of Liberia, Thomas Kurumba, all of the rebel soldiers involved in the attack have been arrested except for Major (Jarbo). These soldiers are now detained at the Barclay training center, awaiting court martial. If found guilty, they will be executed immediately by firing squad. Maj (Jarbo) is at large and is very dangerous. Citizens are advised to beware of this man.

NEW GOVERNMENT PLANS FREE EDUCATION BY JULY

AB181042 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of education, Dr H. (Burmah Fanbulley) Jr., explained in Monrovia today that plans were underway to provide free education in all Liberian schools by July this year. Dr (Fanbulley) said his ministry was making the move to help alleviate the [word indistinct] of the Liberian people. In an interview with the Liberian news agency, the (?minister of education) decried the escalating cost of textbooks and other educational materials which, he said, was mainly due to high profiteering on the part of merchants. The minister disclosed that plans were underway to provide textbooks to the schools and further the number of libraries and instructional materials for the benefit of the students. Dr (Fanbulley) said his ministry will upgrade teachers' salaries and noted that foreign scholarships will apply only for those technical areas vital for nation building and those disciplines that could not be obtained in the country.

DOE VISITS MINISTRIES TO VIEW OPERATIONS

AB190837 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council, Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe, yesterday visited a number of government ministries in an effort to acquaint himself with their operations. The ministries visited were: Foreign Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications and the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Urban Reconstruction. Master Sergeant Doe, who was accompanied by high ranking army officials, was greeted by the heads of the ministries.

NEW INFORMATION MINISTER ADDRESSES STAFF

AB190833 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of information, Gabriel Nimly, yesterday told the staff of the Information Ministry that it is their duty to promote the image of the new military regime in the truest sense. Minister Nimly reminded the staff that as the government's main mouthpiece, the Ministry of Information requires of them dedication and deligence in the discharge of their duties.

Addressing the staff for the first time since his appointment last Saturday, Minister Nimly emphasized that they must work together in the spirit of loyalty to uplift the new government and the common man. The new information boss said although he was familiar with the problems of journalism and broadcasting, his portfolio as minister was a new one, adding: I will depend on the advice, experience and cooperation of the old faces in the discharge of my duties. Minister Nimly frowned on newsmongering and backbiting and stressed that his administration will not tolerate such practices. If you have any problem, come to me; I will help solve them as I have open eyes and open ears, he added.

COMMERCE MINISTER ON COMMODITY SUPPLIES, RENTS

AB190732 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of commerce, Maj Joseph Douglas, today assured consumers that there was adequate supply of basic commodities on the market. Speaking at a press conference in Monrovia today, Major Douglas said his ministry has set up a commission to look into the possibility of minimizing the prices of [word indistinct] as well as some other commodities and that the public would get a feed-back on the commission shortly.

On the Mano River Union, which is alleged to have caused escalation of prices in the country, and whether the present government still recognizes the union, the Commerce Ministry official said the present government has taken no position with regard to the Mano River Union.

With respect to the high rent in the country, the commerce official said his ministry was freezing rents until it could look the overall housing condition, which includes the cost of the building [words indistinct] and other important issues.

Responding to what would be the ministry's position of the insurance companies' refusal to pay those businesses that were looted, the official said the Commerce Industry will help subsidize expenses incurred by the businesses. The minister, however, refused to comment on the Air Liberia plane which took the Lone Stars [the national football team] to Ghana and is now reported stranded in the Ivory Coast.

REGULATIONS IMPOSED ON FOREIGN PAYMENTS

AB190847 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0619 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] This regulation, made under the decree relating to financial measures dated April 16, 1980, issued by Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe, chairman of the People's Redemption Council, Republic of Liberia, takes effect as of Wednesday, April 16 through May 15, 1980: Proceeds of all exports shall be surrendered to a licensed commercial bank operating in Liberia. No transfer or payment abroad of funds shall be made by or through a financial institution without the prior written approval of the National Bank of Liberia, hereinafter referred to as the National Bank, except that first payments or first transfers may be made without reference to the National Bank in respect of obligations existing as at April 16, 1980 and reported as such to the National Bank.

USSR, OTHERS ASSURE GOVERNMENT OF CONTINUING TIES

AB201228 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that messages of support to and in cooperation with the People's Redemption Council have been received from the government of the Soviet Union, the republics of Haiti and Italy and the Kingdom of Morocco. The ambassadors of those countries accredited here in Monrovia on Friday called on foreign minister, G. Bacchus Matthews, during which time they individually conveyed the sentiments of their respective governments.

In the case of the Soviet Union, the Soviet ambassador revealed that his government regards recent developments in Liberia as an internal affair. However, he added that the Soviet Union will continue to maintain diplomatic relations with Liberia. He expressed the hope that cooperation between Liberia and the Soviet Union will further develop in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

Malta To Maintain Relations

AB181600 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1500 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs has announced that the sovereign Military Order of Malta has assured the People's Redemption Council of a continued excellent relations with Liberia and has expressed the wish that Liberia's relations with the sovereign military order of Malta will continue to remain most harmonious. These sentiments were expressed today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the charge d'affairs of the Embassy of Malta when he called on Foreign Minister G. Bacchus Matthews to deliver a special message from his government to the People's Redemption Council. The Maltese charge d'affaires has assured Foreign Minister Matthews of his government's continued cooperation with Liberia through the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and the national leprosy control program, and pledged his government's fullest support to the People's Redemption Council in achieving its objectives. Minister Matthews reciprocated the kind sentiments of the Government of Malta and reaffirmed that the policy of the People's Redemption Council is to work harmoniously with all friendly countries.

Relations with Sierra Leone

AB210810 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Foreign Minister G. Bacchus Matthews has said that Liberia and Sierra Leone must continue to cooperate within the framework of the OAU and the Mano River Union. He said this cooperation must be in conformity with the total liberation of the African Continent. Speaking at a reception in Monrovia at the weekend marking the ninth anniversary of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the foreign minister said the People's Redemption Council government will work for the establishment of a more equitable social order on the basis of freedom and justice. He emphasized that the new government is based on respect for all of the precepts of international law.

Minister Matthews said the total liberation of Africa from the scourge of racism and corruption must be intensified until these evils are completely eradicated from the face of our beloved continent. [sentence indistinct]

DOE CONGRATULATES ZIMBABWE ON INDEPENDENCE

AB190655 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council, Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe, declared today, April 18, a working holiday in solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe, who gained independence at midnight last night. According to a Foreign Ministry release, Master Sergeant Doe congratulated the people of Zimbabwe, who through ordeals and prolonged struggle, have shut off one of the last cradles of colonial domination on the African Continent. He said this effort has restored to all Zimbabweans irrespective of race, creed or color an inalienable rights to freedom, justice, equality and human dignity. The head of state said it is in commemoration of their supreme sacrifice that we hail and salute, in the spirit of African unity and solidarity, the brave people of Zimbabwe.

The Foreign Ministry said although all offices, public and private business houses, firms and other institutions will carry on their normal activities today, the government is calling on all Liberians to join in meditation and prayers with their gallant compatriots in honoring this great historic day.

NIGERIA

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER FRENCH ARMS FOR S. AFRICA

AB191021 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Nigeria has expressed concern over France's alleged intention to supply arms to apartheid South Africa. The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, stated this in Lagos yesterday while receiving the Egyptian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr (Muhammad Annawawi) in his office. Dr Ekwueme briefed the ambassador on political issues in Nigeria since 1975. The Egyptian envoy, on the other hand, expressed happiness at the continued cordial relations between Egypt and Nigeria. He commended Nigeria for successful transition from military to civilian administration.

PRESIDENT SHAGARI RETURNS FROM ZIMBABWE

AB200741 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] A Nigerian high commission is being established in Salisbury, capital of Zimbabwe. President Shagari told the country's prime minister, Robert Mugabe, in Salisbury that the commission would start operating immediately.

President Shagari, who was in Salisbury for the Zimbabwean independence celebration, said that the Nigerian high commissioner in Botswana would take charge of the embassy, that is, before the arrival of the substantive high commissioner.

At a news conference in Zimbabwe, Alhaji Shehu reiterated that Nigeria encouraged the promotion of the principle of multiracial society in that country. He expressed delight that the utterances and actions of Mr Mugabe had been in that direction since his election.

An FRON [Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria] correspondent who was at the news conference reported that the president also paid tribute to governments and organizations that contributed to the independence of Zimbabwe.

President Shagari returned to Lagos yesterday.

WORK ON SECOND SATELLITE STATION TO BEGIN

AB181855 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Work on the second satellite station of the Nigerian External Telecommunications Limited, NET, is to begin soon. It will be sited at Kaduna. The chief engineer of the corporation, Mr (Adegoke Adegbimpe), made this known to the presidential liaison officer for Oyo State, Dr (Debite Balogo), who called on him at Lunlate, in the state. He said that contracts had been awarded for the project.

Mr (Adegbimpe) added that it was necessary to have a second station to reinforce the one at Lanlate. The presidential liaison officer expressed satisfaction that the station was ably manned by Nigerians, in spite of the advanced technology required.

ONDO STATE RECEIVES FEDERAL MONEY FOR OIL EXPLORATION

AB200737 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] The federal administration has paid the Ondo State government 2.6 million naira for petroleum exploration in the area. The governor, Chief Adekunde Ajasin, who disclosed this in Ibadan, said that the exploration of oil led to the creation of a department for petroleum in the state. He added that the department would also insure the development of other resources in the state.

SIERRA LEONE

PRESIDENT STEVENS DEPARTS FOR VISIT TO ALGERIA

AB210728 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The president, Dr Siaka Stevens, left Freetown late Saturday evening for Algeria at the start of an official visit to that country. President Stevens was seen off at the Freetown international airport by a galaxy of distinguished personalities, including cabinet ministers, senior civil servants and top ranking party officials. Shortly after President Stevens' departure, First Vice President S.I. Koroma took the oath of office to act as president during the absence of the head of state.

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC STATUS FOR CLEARING HOUSE--The West African Clearing House, established in 1975, has been given diplomatic status in Sierra Leone. At the agreement signing ceremony this morning, Dr. Abdulai Conteh, foreign affairs minister, assured the clearing house of the government's readiness to abide by its commitments in providing all facilities for the institutions. The governor of the Bank of Sierra Leone, on his party, expressed the view that the agreement to have the West African Clearing House located in Sierra Leone was not a mere diplomatic exercise, but an expression of a genuine desire to contribute effectively towards the venture. [Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 16 Apr 80 AB]

ANGOLA

SENEGALESE OPPOSITION LEADER VISITS LUANDA

AB181635 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] The president of the Democratic Party of Senegal has been in Luanda since Wednesday for a few days' visit to Angola. Interviewed on his arrival on the fact that Senegal still does not want to recognize the People's Republic of Angola, Mr (Wadi) Abdoulai said that his party has always fought in opposition to the Senegalese Progressive Union of President Sedar Senghor and added that all efforts are being made by his organization in order to unite more and more with the MPLA Labor Party in its struggles against [few worlds indistinct] of the FNLA and of UNITA. In addition, he affirmed that his party has never stopped protesting against the presence of Savimbi and his group and stated that his organization has been able to make the Senegalese people become aware of the fight against the puppets and the allies of South Africa and of the imperialists.

It is to be noted that the president of the Democratic Party of Senegal had previously paid an official visit to Angola in June 1976, at the invitation of the late President Agostinho Neto, to witness the trial of the mercenaries.

SOUTH AFRICA

'S. AFRICA PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH ZIMBABWE'

LD181038 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Rhodesia has become independent Zimbabwe and now the new prime minister, Mr Mugabe, and his cabinet have to face the realities of government.

South Africa watches with interest whether Mr Mugabe will be able to put into practice the pragmatic policies which he envisaged since his election victory. Mr Mugabe has stated that he cannot afford to give active assistance to terrorists against South Africa. This is an indication that Mr Mugabe is facing the reality of his country's dependence on South Africa, the economic power on the African Continent.

South Africa is prepared to cooperate with any government in its neighboring states provided they are stable and (?adhere) to the same principle that South Africa does of noninterference in each other's internal affairs. If Mr Mugabe and the new Zimbabwe intend to uphold these principles, then South Africa will no doubt continue to return the goodwill, cooperation and good neighborliness just as it does in the case of Mozambique and other neighboring states. But South Africa will not tolerate interference in her internal affairs, nor will she interfere in the internal affairs of another country.

As long as Mr Mugabe continues to realize and acknowledge this, he has nothing to fear from South Africa; he can continue to depend on South Africa's good neighborliness and cooperation in the interests of the broader stability and development of the entire constellation of states of southern Africa.

FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA COMMENTS ON WALVIS BAY ISSUE

LD202154 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] The South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, says that if the world (?did come up) with a plan to reconsider the position of all enclaves of territory within the borders of other countries, South Africa might be prepared to discuss changes in the status of the port of Walvis Bay. Interviewed on a South African radio program, Mr. Botha said that other powers would naturally not be prepared to deal with their enclaves in the way they wanted South Africa to deal with the port on the coast of southwest Africa.

The minister said South Africa will be prepared to discuss the use and availability of the facilities at Walvis Bay with a democratically elected government of southwest Africa. However, it was an historical part of South Africa and its incorporation with other political entities had never been offered for discussion by the South African Government. United Nations resolutions declaring Walvis Bay part of South West Africa had no legal force.

ZIMBABWE

SALISBURY LISTS MORE COUNTRIES RECOGNIZING ZIMBABWE

LD181556 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Countries which announced their official recognition of the Zimbabwe Government today included the Soviet Union, Portugal, Iraq, Switzerland, and North Korea.

China also announced the establishment of diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between the two countries. And Sweden announced that its ambassador to Zimbabwe will be Mr (Haanebach), who is currently part of the Swedish mission to the United Nations.

NIGERIA SUPPORTS ARMED STRUGGLE IN S. AFRICA

LD191224 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria says his country would support an armed struggle in South Africa as it did in Zimbabwe. Speaking at a news conference in Salisbury, he said the peaceful introduction of black majority rule in Zimbabwe should serve to allay the fears of whites. He also thought that the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, had been quite right in declining to offer bases for an armed attack on South Africa. However, if South Africa refused to see reason and introduce a one-man, one-vote society, both Africa and Zimbabwe reserved the right to use force in the last resort.